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A meeting of Messrs. Buchanan Dewar Limited has passed a resolution increasing the capital of the company to £2,000,000 by the creation of 1,500,000 further ordinary shares of £1 each.

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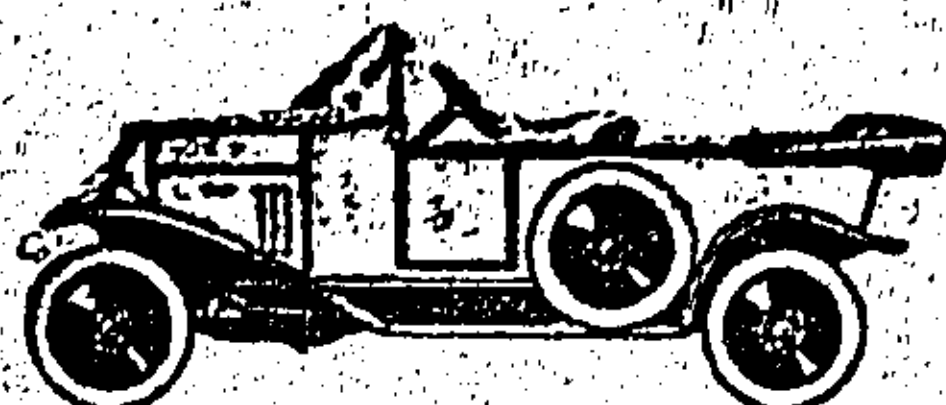
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COMPANY REPORTS.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The Report for presentation to the shareholders states:—
The General Managers and Consulting Committee have pleasure in submitting to the shareholders the fifty-fifth annual report of the Company.

Working Account 1922.—This account shows a surplus of \$633,749.89.

Reserve Fund.—It is proposed to appropriate \$300,000 out of the profits of the year 1922 to the credit of this Fund. The reserve will then stand at \$2,000,000.

Reinsurance Fund.—It is proposed to appropriate \$17,537 8s. 2d. at exchange 2/37= \$153,749.89, out of the profits of the year 1922 to the credit of this Fund. The Fund will then stand at \$188,890 6s. 0d.

Dividend.—The General Managers and Consulting Committee have pleasure in recommending a dividend of 33s per share, absorbing \$290,000.

Working Account 1923.—The balance at credit of this account is \$915,163.24.

Consulting Committee.—Mr. E. J. Chapman resigned his seat on account of his departure from the Colony and Mr. C. Bernard Brown was invited to fill the vacancy.

The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Sir Robert Ho Tung, Messrs. C. Bernard Brown, A. H. Compton, A. S. Gubbay, T. E. Pearce and H. P. White retire but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. H. Percy Smith, F.C.A., and the Hon. Mr. A. R. Lowe, F.C.A., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LIMITED.

The Report for presentation to the shareholders at the forty-sixth annual general meeting states:—

The General Agents beg to submit to the shareholders their report on the Company's business for the year ended 31st December, 1923.

The working account for the year 1923, after adding \$2,762.46 brought forward from the previous account, shows a credit balance of \$1,618,888.12, which the General Agents and Consulting Committee recommend should be dealt with as follows:—

To write off buildings	75,000.00
To write off machinery	125,000.00
To place to reserve for Chinese tenements	50,000.00
To place to reserve for new lighters	50,000.00
To place to sugar fluctuation account	920,248.33
To place to equalization of dividend fund	130,000.00
To pay a bonus to staff	27,676.03
To pay a dividend of \$40 per share absorbing	600,000.00
To carry to next account	40,783.79
	\$1,618,888.12

Consulting Committee.—The present Committee consists of Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G., Messrs. O. Gordon Mackie and H. P. White, who offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. H. Percy Smith, F.C.A., and Hon. Mr. A. R. Lowe, F.C.A., who offer themselves for re-election.

SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT CO., LIMITED.

The annual report of the Directors of the Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd., to be presented to the 35th annual general meeting of shareholders, says:—

Working account shows a credit balance of Tls. 618,038.33 as compared with Tls. 605,391.69 for 1922. Gross rents are increased by Tls. 87,571.59, and outgoings for insurance, repairs, taxes, etc., are increased by Tls. 5,565.52, giving an increase of net rents of Tls. 78,606.07. Reserve and equalization of dividends remain the same as last year.

The profit and loss account shows a credit balance of Tls. 549,410.19, and has been credited with:—

The balance of working account	616,038.33
Unclaimed dividends written off	211.00
Profit on sales of property	174,805.97
And debited with	
The interim dividend of 6 per cent.	234,000.20
Staff superannuation appropriation	33,304.00
The Directors recommend the appropriation of the balance (Tls. 549,410.19) as follows:—	

To pay a final dividend of 8 per cent. making 12 per cent. for the year	234,000.20
To pay a bonus of 4 per cent. (Tls. 2 per share)	156,000.00
To transfer to improvements and renewals reserve	100,000.00
To transfer to equalization of dividends reserve	25,000.00
To carry forward to new account	34,410.19
The book cost of estates in Tls. 11,373,287.02, an increase of Tls. 962,990.53.	

**HONGKONG SHARE MARKET
CLOSING QUOTATIONS**

March 18th, 1924.	
Hongkong and Shanghai	
Banks	1,180 1/2
Union Insurance	245 1/2
"Star" Ferries	85 1/2
Kowloon Wharves	163 1/2 b. & m.
Whampoa Dock	137 1/2
Hongkong Land	130 1/2
Cement	33 1/2
Watsons	27 1/2
Hongkong Tram	28 1/2
R.-buyers; a.-sellers; m.-sales.	

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ICE CREAM

AND

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Corner of Pedder St.

AND

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DELICIOUS

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COFFEE

65 cts. per lb.

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BEST TWO LITRE ITALIAN CAR.

AGENTS REQUIRED FOR
CHINA.

ALLIES.

All Discriminating

Smokers

and the

HONGKONG CIGAR STORE LTD.

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or your glasses

consult

CHINESE OPTICAL CO.

Eye-sight Specialists

67, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL
Hongkong.

"POTASH AND PERLMUTTER"
CORONET'S BIG PICTURE.

Hongkong can laugh itself hoarse during the next week, for there comes to the Coronet Theatre this evening one of the funniest comedies ever written. "Potash and Perlmutter," the inevitable couple whose droll adventures have amused millions in the great World capitals. The original stage stars will be seen in the leading roles. "Potash and Perlmutter" is not all laughter—sweets can often cloy—but has many other admirable qualities as well. There is, indeed, more than once a shade of pathos, though not for very long. Above all, there is the essentially human character of the two most lovable figures in modern fiction.

The story of the film gives added relish to the fun. Morris had always considered himself a woman hater. One of the reasons of his attitude towards the fairer sex was that they interfered with business—and Morris' motto was "business before pleasure" in every case. And again he had a "horrible example" in his partner, for Abe was one of the most hen-pecked men he had ever met. One day, however, the firm hired a clothing designer, who was blonde and beautiful. It was then that Morris began to lose his interest in business and that both partners became enmeshed in a series of complications which led to all sorts of amusing and dramatic incidents.



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THIS AGAIN
?



WHY NOT GIVE OUR DRY-CLEANING
SERVICE A TRIAL FIRST?

YOU WILL THEN BE ABLE TO PUT
YOUR WINTER CLOTHES AWAY
CLEAN, AND KEEP THE MOTH AWAY,
IT WILL SAVE YOU MANY DOLLARS
WHEN NEXT WINTER ARRIVES.

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GREAT REDUCTION SALE

ALL KINDS OF LADIES' FANCY GOODS

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that will give you the Utmost SATISFACTION in
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Makers of Furniture, the QUALITY of which has long
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"MARY GARDEN"

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"DULCE MIA"

"LILAS DE RIGAUD"

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Plain Colours and stripes with 2 Collars to match ... \$7.50

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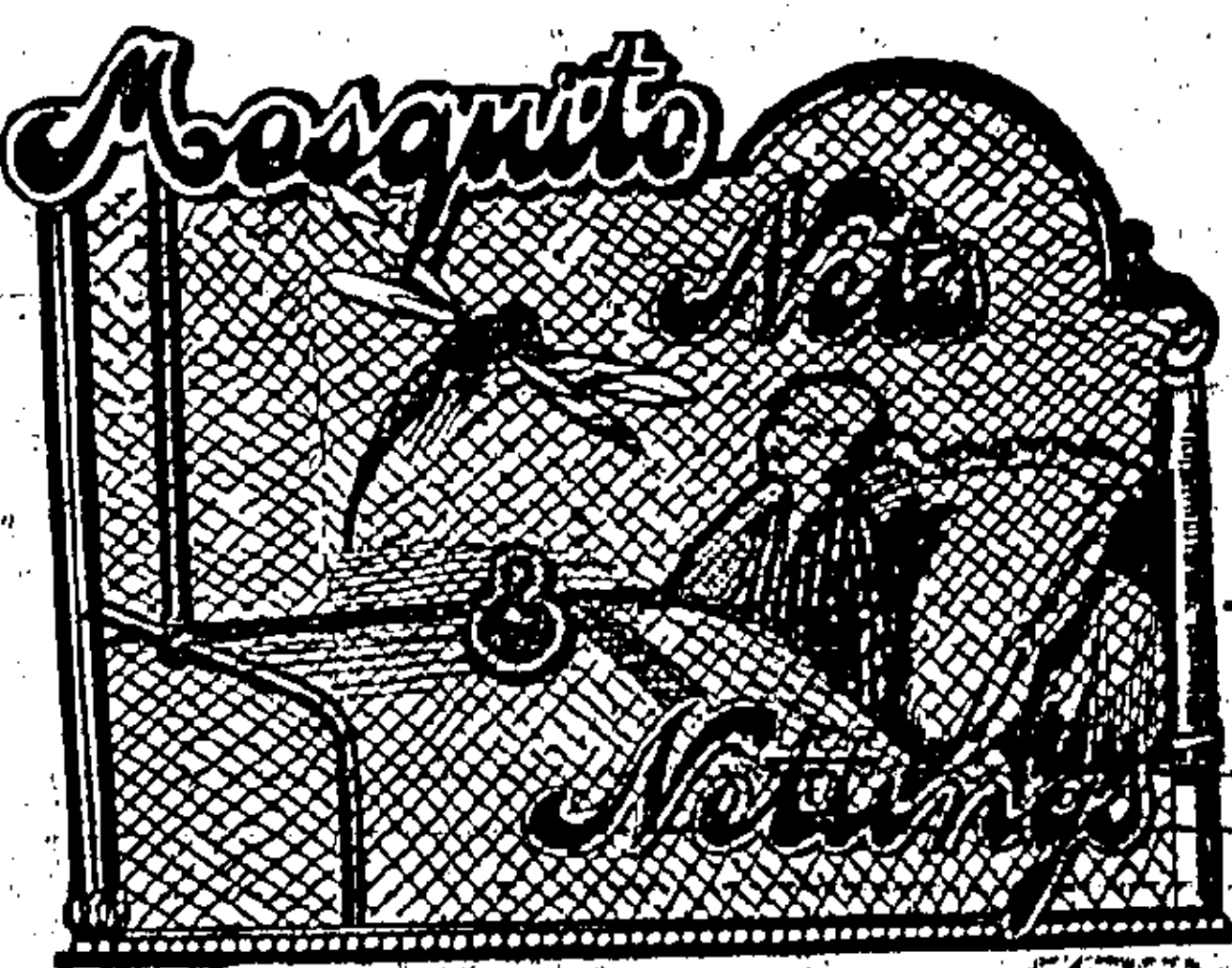
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FOR BEDS SIZE—

3' 3'6" 4' 4'6" 5' 5'6" wide

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ROUND TOP BELL NETS

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FIRST FLOOR SHOW ROOMS

WHITEAWAY'S

TERMS CASH.

SPORT.

THE TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

DRAWN OUT GAMES IN THE OPEN SINGLES.

In the open singles championship two matches were played off. Rumjahn's figure in both. Both matches were drawn out to the last set and at times were "painfully" slow. In the match between O. Rumjahn and S. H. Ismail it was just a case of long rallies of simple backhand and forehand driving until either one or the other drove the ball into the net or outside the Court. Rumjahn was expected to win somewhat easily but such was not the case. Ismail got away with the first two sets and Rumjahn had to fight hard to equalise which he did. In the last set he had a bad attack of cramp which handicapped his movements considerably. Still he pluckily carried on. The match was not finished darkness setting in before the final set could be completed. It is to be replayed.

On the next Court H. D. Rumjahn (O. Rumjahn's partner in the Open Doubles) met S. Fujita in the Open Singles, and here again it was a case of dull monotonous tennis. Fujita, considered the next best Japanese player to Honda, put up a good fight and took the first two sets. It was some time before Rumjahn could get used to Fujita's very peculiar style of play, which amongst other things was left-handed. Rumjahn came into his own in the last three sets which he took with ease.

Results:—

OPEN SINGLES.—H. D. Rumjahn beat S. Fujita, 2-6, 4-6, 6-1, 6-1; O. Rumjahn v. S. H. Ismail, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-1 (unfinished).

HANDICAP DOUBLES.—H. Owen Hughes and G. V. More (+15) beat A. Brearley and R. M. Henderson (-3/6), 6-2, 6-2.

HANDICAP SINGLES "A".—B. D. Evans (+26) beat L. Forster (-3/6), 6-4, 6-6, 6-2; G. W. Sewell (-3/6) beat C. F. Bensley (+15.2), 6-2, 6-3.

TODAY'S MATCHES.

OPEN SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP.—H. Krebs v. T. Honda.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP.—A. B. Raworth v. G. W. Sewell; R. M. Henderson v. W. B. Comaby.

OPEN DOUBLES.—M. K. and M. W. Lo v. Yew Man Tsun and Yew Man Kit; R. Hancock and R. J. Saunders v. A. H. and S. A. Rumjahn.

MIXED DOUBLES.—Mr. and Mrs. Phillips (+15.2) v. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer (+15).

HANDICAP SINGLES "B".—J. T. Smalley (+3/6) v. C. D. Armstrong (+1/6); C. R. Baron (+1.6) v. O. H. Penn (+1/6).

GOLF

INTER-BANK MATCH.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Chartered Bank had their annual contest on the golf links at Fanling on Sunday. The Chartered Bank won handsomely. Scores:—

Chartered.	Wayfong.
Ferguson (3 & 2) 1	Black 0
Cambridge (3 & 4) 1	Moncrieff 1
Walker (4 & 3) 1	Walker 0
Austin (2 up) 1	Hegarty 0
Reid (5 & 4) 1	Clerk 0
Cox (2 & 2) 0	Turnbull 0
Brearley 0	Dunn 1
Corley 0	Doyle (5 & 4) 1
6	2

FOURSUMES.

Ferguson and Austin (6 & 5) 2	Hegarty and Black 0
Cambridge and Walker (4 & 3) 2	Moncrieff 0
Reid and Cox (1 up) 2	Clerk and Turnbull 0
Brearley and Corley (2 & 1) 2	Dunn and Doyle 0
8	0

Singles 2

Grand Total 15

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. 1st XI. v. K.C.C. 1st XI.

The following team will represent the Hongkong C.C. v. Kowloon C.C. in a League match on the Hongkong ground on Saturday at 2.15 p.m. sharp:—R. H. B. Hancock (capt.), T. E. Pearce, E. J. R. Mitchell, R. E. A. Webster, H. Owen Hughes, E. G. Lammert, G. R. More, A. C. L. Bowker, Rev. T. B. Powell, A. V. T. Denn and W. W. Mackenzie.

H.K.C.C. "A" v. NAVY.

In this match at Happy Valley on Saturday at 2.15 p.m. Hongkong C.C. will be represented by L. D. McNicol (capt.), Capt. R. F. Walker, Capt. W. C. Kent, Capt. Rowe, Lieut. C. D. Armstrong, F. N. Young, P. W. F. Mills, E. J. Wakefield, A. Vallack, D. H. F. McMaster and J. N. Owen.

H.K.C.C. 2nd XI. v. R.E.

In the League match at Happy Valley on Saturday at 2.15 p.m., the Hongkong C.C. 2nd XI. will be composed of G. H. Piercy (capt.), H. E. Hollands, C. R. Baron, H. Griffin, D. Reid, E. C. Hawgen, D. E. G. Nicholson, J. A. H. Plummer, R. M. Macalpine, C. T. Fowle and G. W. Sewell.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

ENTRIES FOR FIRST EXTRA MEETING.

The following ponies are entered for the Extra Race meeting to be held on Saturday, March 29th:—

1st RACE.—MARCH STAKES—Half mile.—Goom Rock, Shu River, Wattheau, Cottongrass, Arctic Star, Jungle Star, Roman Bay, Lock Rannoch, Pet Mouse, Blue Dun, What To Do.

3rd RACE.—FIRST AGGREGATE STAKES—One mile.—Benz, Kupi, Sun Star, Rialto Star, Rothsay (late Ramsbury), Grey Dragon, Spotted Sand, King Charlie, King Johnnie, Edenhall, Oak Leaf, Fern Leaf, Limonite (late Charm Dahlia), Magnificent Dahlia, Valiant Dahlia.

2nd and 5th RACES.—HAYDON PLATE—"A" and "B" Handicap—One mile.—Lighting, Benz, Pigg Pong, Mopoke, Drake, Speargrass, Rivergrass, Gaulie, Sun Star, Rialto Star, Jungle Cock, Roman Bay, Strathfarrar, Pencaiste, Grey Dragon, White Rose (late Hawk-away), Golden Jubilee, The Work, Daku, Langsat, King Charlie, King Canute, King Alfred, King Johnnie, Mountain Hawk, Oak Leaf, Fern Leaf, Silver Leaf, Kemington, Knocknag Log, Uncle George, Cottongrass, Magnetics (late Jewel Dahlia), Limonite (late Charm Dahlia), Magnificent Dahlia, Peerless Dahlia, Valiant Dahlia.

4th RACE.—CANWICK MAIDEN PLATE—From two mile post once round and in.—Barcelona (late Phiggs), Gaudie, Golden Jubilee, Mountain Loch (late Loch Kaffine), Silver Leaf, Nastaran II, Uncle George, Magnetics (late Jewel Dahlia), Magnificent Dahlia.

6th RACE.—BROCKLESBY STAKES—One mile.—Goom Rock, Wattheau, Speargrass, Cottongrass, Jungle Cock, Lock Rannoch, Pet Mouse, The Work, Durian, Duku, Blue Dun, King Canute, King Alfred, Mountain Hawk, What To Do.

7th RACE.—LYNDOLPH STAKES—11 mile.—Barcelona (late Phiggs), Kipi, Mopoke, Speargrass, Rivergrass, Sun Star, Rialto Star, Starland, Rothsay (late Ramsbury), Grey Dragon, Pencaiste, The Work, Durian, King Johnnie, Spotted Sand, King Canute, Oak Leaf, Fern Leaf, Kemington, Nastaran II, Magnetics (late Jewel Dahlia), Limonite (late Charm Dahlia), Magnificent Dahlia, Valiant Dahlia, Peerless Dahlia.

A LESSON IN LOGIC.

UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO PROVE A PORTUGUESE A LIAR.

An attempt to pick the pocket of a Portuguese named M. A. dos Remedios in the public hall of the General Post Office, had its sequel at the Magistracy, yesterday when a Chinese, who showed himself to be an expert at cross-examination, was charged before Mr. E. W. Hamilton, with attempted larceny from the person.

Mr. Remedios, giving evidence, said that he was standing at the parcels counter when the defendant came up and pushed him. His suspicions were aroused but at that moment the counter shroff called him and drew his attention away from the man. The defendant then came up behind him and tried to put his hand into his pocket. Witness grabbed the defendant's hand when it was in the vicinity of his pocket.

Mr. J. M. Britto, a clerk at the Post Office, corroborated the complainant's story and went on to say that he could see the defendant's hand distinctly; in fact the defendant had almost extracted something white from the pocket.

Inspector Blackman explained that this was an envelope containing \$5.80. The Inspector added that when the defendant was arrested he protested, stating that he went to the Police Office to post a letter and that he had in his hand at the time a Chinese newspaper folded up to the size of an envelope.

The defendant then put a number of questions to Mr. Britto. He claimed that from his position behind the counter Mr. Britto could not have seen the defendant's hand near Mr. Remedios's pocket. By logic he tried to prove that, as he could not see, that no such thing happened and therefore the witness was a liar.

His Worship convicted and asked for the defendant's record. This showed that since 1912 to the present he had undergone two sentences of three months' hard labour and one of six months' hard labour, all for larceny from the person. He had also been banished to Canton for five years.

When the Magistrate mentioned the previous sentences the defendant smiled, and retorted: "You Westerners only deal with the present and not with what happened in my mythology."

The defendant was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

CHRISTIANITY AND POTATOES.

IN THIS RESPECT THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE.

In cautioning a Chinese who was charged with hawking small divisions of the gospels of the New Testament, in Chinese (issued by the Bible Society), Mr. Hamilton, yesterday, said that in this respect there was no difference between Christianity and potatoes and whether he sold Bible tracts or potatoes in the streets he must have a licence.

After the defendant asked Inspector Blackman if he would like to have the books confiscated for the police library. The Inspector: No, thank you, Sir.

LAST DAY CLEARANCE

Big Bargains!

RAIN COATS

For Gents. ... \$6.00.

For Ladies ... \$9.50.

At Given Away Prices.

YEE SANG FAT CO.

From 15th till 31st March

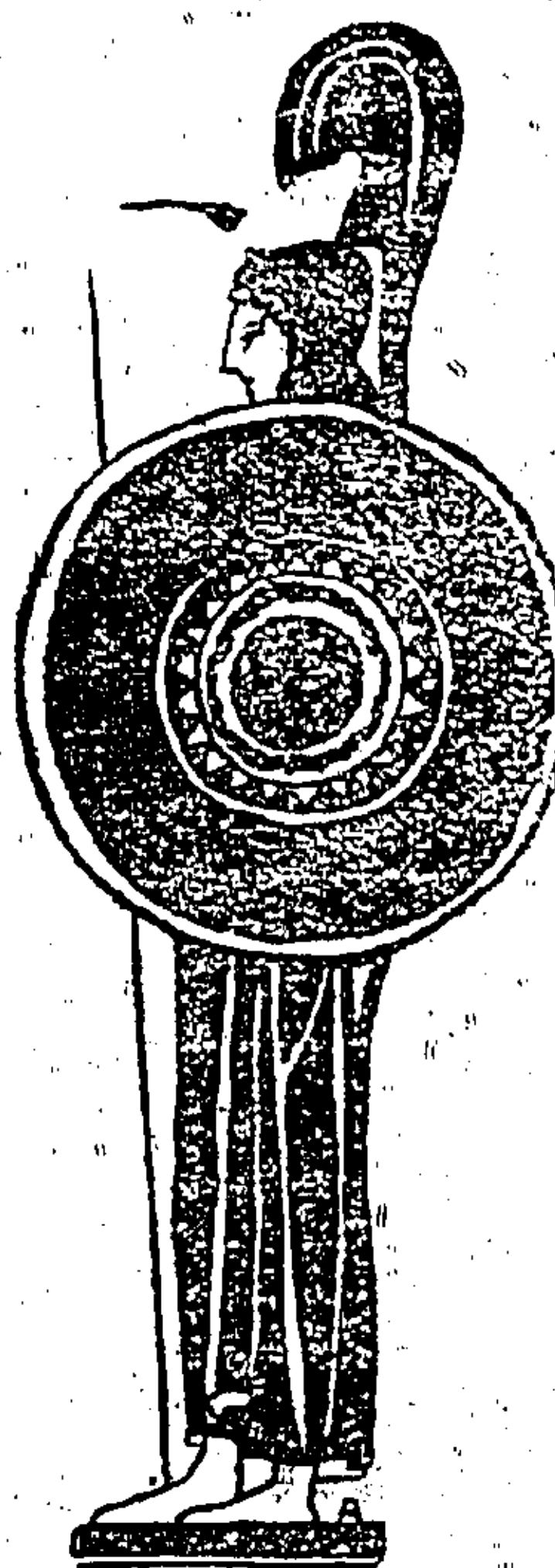
MADAME FLINT

Who is leaving for France early in April, will hold a

CHEAP SALE.

DRESSES, HATS, GOWNS.

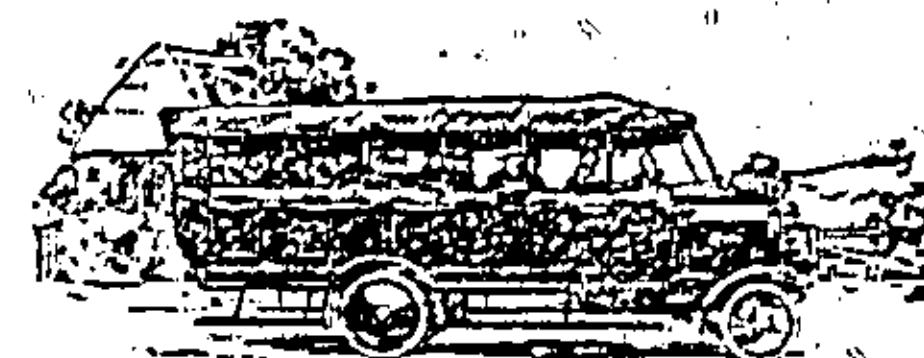
Material Sold by yard:
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JUST RECEIVED

A GREAT ASSORTMENT OF

EAR-RINGS, PEKING BLUE BEADS, MANILA HATS,
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THE SWATOW LACE CO.,

Manufacturers and Exporters

OF

LACES, DRAWN-WORK AND
EMBROIDERIES.

17a, Queen's Road Central.

CAPTAIN WILLOX'S DEATH. STORY OF THE PIRACY. OFFICIAL ENQUIRY OPENS.

An enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of Capt. Willox, late master of the *Tai Lee*, which was pirated recently, was held at the Harbour Office yesterday. Mr. R. G. Lindsell (Coroner) presided.

Sub-Inspector Shannon (Hongkong Police) gave evidence of removing the dead body of the Captain from the ship to the mortuary on the night of January 21st last.

Dr. E. P. Minnet, Government bacteriologist, said he conducted a post-mortem on the 22nd January on the body of Capt. Willox. There were four bullet wounds. The first entered near the end of the right collar bone and came out at the back of the neck. The second entered on the left side, in front, and came out at the back, fracturing a bone. The third, the wound of which had been stitched, entered on the left side. The fourth entered on the inner side of the left leg, below the knee.

The Coroner here explained to the jury that Capt. Willox was removed from the *Tai Lee* to a hospital in Fong Wu. He was there alive; he died in hospital.

Dr. Minnet, continuing his evidence, said that deceased's organs, for a man of his age who had lived so long in the East, were in a healthy condition. All the wounds could not have been self-inflicted. It was difficult to say at what distance the shots had been fired.

Chief Officer Fletcher, of the *Tai Lee*, said that on the night in question he went to relieve Capt. Willox between 12.15 and 12.30. The captain was neither on the bridge nor in the wheel-house. Two minutes later the boatswain came on the bridge with another man. The boatswain said the Chief Officer, "There are 60 pirates on board. Go into the wheel-house and you will not get shot." Shots were then fired in several parts of the ship. The Chief Officer went into the wheel-house. The boatswain came in and said, "Sit down and don't show your head above the window." After a quarter of an hour the pirates brought the Chief Engineer into the wheel-house. The quarter-master was also there. Witness could not say whether the boatswain was armed, but some of the Chinese who accompanied him into the wheelhouse were armed. One pointed a revolver at the Chief Officer. The *Tai Lee*, continued on her course until about 4 a.m. when she came to anchor. There was only the pilot and the boatswain on the bridge.

At about 4.45 a.m. it was reported to the Chief Officer by the pilot that the pirates had gone. Witness then came out of the wheel-house. It was still dark and he did not know exactly where he was. He estimated he was between ten and eleven miles from Kowloon. He saw the Captain lying on the deck. He said he had been shot. Witness saw bullet wounds in the Captain's neck, side, shoulder and stomach. Witness placed him on a mattress and put a screen around him. On the starboard side of the deck witness subsequently found the dead body of one of the Indian guards, shot in several places. Two of the guards were wounded. Several of the ship's company had disappeared with the pirates, together with three of the *Tai Lee's* boats. The boatswain had also gone. Witness had the boat anchored off Kowloon just before 8 o'clock. Capt. Willox was removed ashore soon after. His body was brought aboard the ship an hour before she sailed from Kowloon and conveyed to Hongkong. H.M.S. *Robin* was met as the *Tai Lee* was making into Hongkong and the former handed over one of the latter's missing boats.

Hongkong was reached at 9.5 p.m. Witness, the next morning, identified the body of Capt. Willox when Sub-Inspector Shannon removed it from the ship to the mortuary.

Questioned by the Coroner, witness said he saw the passengers being searched before she left Hongkong on the 20th January. He did not see any searching conducted on board. The Indian guards were on duty when the ship sailed from Hongkong. Capt. Willox was on the bridge and the grilles were locked. When witness went to relieve the Captain he (witness) did not notice whether the grilles were there or whether the grilles were locked. His cabin was on the inner side of the grilles. These shut off the bridge, wheel-house, European officers' rooms, five saloon passengers' rooms, dining room and pantry from the rest of the ship.

The Coroner: Is there any access to these parts from the lower deck, other than via the grilles?

Witness: There is no companion-way, but anyone could climb over the rail.

Coroner: What is the use of the grilles, then?

Witness: That is all I can say about it. In my opinion grilles are useless, but my opinion does not count for much. I could climb from the lower deck to be kind the grilles in two seconds.

Further questioned, witness said he was not armed when he went to relieve the captain. His revolver was locked up in his cabin.

Coroner: Is it not usual to carry your arms?

Witness: It would not have been much use for me to have had the revolver, especially against sixty pirates!

There were no spare arms on the bridge or in the wheel-house, continued witness. They were all in a steel box in the Captain's cabin. Witness's cabin was entered into and his revolver taken, but nothing else.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

A LOG OF WOOD. STUDY IN VALUES.

In the Supreme Court yesterday, before Mr. Justice Gompertz (Puisne Judge) the N. V. Di Lan Yun Hie Ron-tionessies Company, 313, Queen's Road Central, sued the Tung Cheong Co., 47, Connaught Road Central, for the sum of \$716, the value of a log of wood alleged to have been lost by the defendant firm.

Mr. R. E. A. Webster appeared for plaintiffs and the defendants were represented by Mr. F. E. Nash.

Mr. Webster said that the plaintiff firm were large exporters of timber from the Dutch East Indies. In March last, a shipload containing 683 logs of Yaclo wood was consigned to Hongkong and the local manager made arrangements for defendants to unload the logs from the boat and take them to the Kwong Mow Hing foreshore at Kowloon Bay. The receipts showed that 683 logs actually left the ship. The defendants' liability ceased when they were delivered, but only 682 were delivered and the loss could only have occurred during the transit of the logs from the boat to the foreshore.

Cross-examined by Mr. Nash, plaintiff's local manager said that one log of wood was missing. Asked how he accounted for the amount of the claim if this wood was sold at \$3.30 per foot, witness said he could have sold the others at a better price if the log in question had not been missing.

Mr. Nash said the defence was that his clients entered into a contract to deliver the timber and that they duly carried out their contract.

At the conclusion of the case his Lordship congratulated Mr. Webster on the very able way in which he had conducted the case for the plaintiff but he felt bound on the evidence before the Court to give judgment for the defendant.

JUST TO OBLIGE A FRIEND. AN OBLIGATION WHICH COST \$1,000.

A Chinese, described as a Bonham Strand broker, and who was said to have resided in Hongkong for the last 30 years, was yesterday afternoon fined \$1,000 with the alternative of six months' imprisonment with hard labour for having unlawfully in his possession 170 Mauser pistol springs.

The Magistrate (Mr. E. W. Hamilton), in imposing the fine, took into consideration that the defendant had a clean police record; otherwise he would have sent him to prison without the option of a fine.

The man told Mr. Hamilton that a friend of his asked him to hold the parcel whilst he went away for a few moments. He never returned. He did not know what the parcel contained.

Asked by his Worship if he knew where his friend was now the defendant said as far as he knew he was now in Canton. Armourer Q.M.S. Greggs of the R.A.O.C. gave expert evidence to the effect that the springs were identical with those used in Mauser pistols, though he was not prepared to swear that they were Mauser pistol springs.

"It seems clear from what you tell us," said the Coroner, "that the passengers could not have got aboard except as passengers at Hongkong."

Witness assented. He said that Capt. Willox never carried arms when he was on duty.

Further questioned, witness said that after the piracy the charterers attempted to put aboard the *Tai Lee's* boatswain a man whom witness believed to be a friend of the boatswain who turned pirate. Witness protested, and, after a lot of argument was allowed to take his own boatswain. After his third trip subsequent to the piracy witness was told by the owners of the vessel to go.

The Coroner here explained that witness had refused to give evidence to the Commissioner of the Customs of the Kingdom. This official reported the matter to the Hongkong Government, and it was probably because of this incident that witness was dismissed his ship.

Witness agreed that this matter might have had something to do with his dismissal but so also, in his opinion, had the incident of the selection of a boatswain.

Deputy Superintendent Purdue (Hongkong Police) produced the log of the *s.s. Tai Lee* and questioned witness as to when the report of the firing incident was written. Witness said he wrote part of it on the way back to Hongkong. The afternoon of the 21st January. The next was written by the new Chief Officer on the next trip up the river.

Further questioned by Inspector Purdue, witness said he had no time to raise any alarm after being warned by the boatswain. He could not say exactly what the interval was between the time he received his warning and when the firing started. He reached the wheel-house just as the firing commenced.

Arms, rockets, etc., required under the Piracy Regulations were in a chest on the bridge. The Captain had the key of the box in his cabin.

The Coroner adjourned the enquiry until Thursday afternoon, intimating that the jury would be asked to accompany him aboard the *s.s. Tai Lee* in order to ascertain the exact position of the grilles, etc.

Lieut. R. R. Beauchamp (Assistant Harbour Master) sat on the Bench with the Coroner, Mr. C. G. Purdue, A.S.P. and Assistant, watched the enquiry on behalf of the Police. Mr. G. K. Hall, Brunsdon appeared for the China Coast Officers' Guild and the Marine Engineers' Guild of China. The jury comprised: Messrs. H. R. B. Hancock (foreman), F. A. Perry and A. F. B. Silva-Netto.

HONGKONG AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING.

At the annual general meeting of the members of the Hongkong Automobile Association, the following members were present:—Messrs. D. G. M. Bernard (in the chair), C. D. Lambert, D. J. Lewis, C. P. Marcel, E. M. Sleight, Robert Yip, G. H. Wilson, G. H. Bannerman, E. C. Tregillus, J. Smith, C. A. Middleton-Smith, W. J. E. Mackenzie, Capt. Riggs, E. V. Sorby, C. C. Hickling, G. M. Shaw, R. Pestonji, C. Lauritsen, T. Oliphant, J. Owen-Hughes, and P. M. Hodgson (Hon. Secretary).

In his report the Chairman said that since they had last met, the membership of the Association had considerably increased, and there were now just on 300 members. There was also a marked increase in the recognition of the Association as being a body of usefulness to motorists. The recognition given to the Association by the Royal Automobile Club and the Automobile Association and Motor Union at Home was gratifying, and members who went home armed with a certificate of membership and an introduction would always find those Home institutions of great assistance and benefit. Reciprocal facilities had been arranged with the Home Association whereby members of either Association were able to join each Association at a reduced annual fee, without entrance fee. The new badge of the Association, which was the badge of an Associate of the R.A.C., London, with local colour, was attractive, and it was desirable that all members should procure one from the Hon. Secretary.

There was now a much larger number of British cars in the Colony, which was most satisfactory, and he felt confident that as their merits were more fully appreciated they would become increasingly popular.

The Committee during the past year had had a good deal of correspondence with the Government upon matters generally affecting motorists, and he wished again to record the courtesy and assistance which had been shown to them in matters to which they had considered attention to be desirable. The roads in the Colony had suffered very much from the big typhoon last August, and the heavy rains in the Autumn, and their upkeep had been a difficult matter. With increasing traffic and more motoring roads, the need of a large staff of workmen and constant attention was necessary, but the surface of the roads was gradually being improved. By the end of the year he thought they would find all the motoring roads in first class condition. Traffic control of vehicles had much improved, and the system of lights at night at certain spots had proved successful. He regretted he could not report any improved transport of cars and cycles across the harbour. They were still indebted to the Star Ferry Company for what they had given them, and grateful as they were for an obviously non-paying privilege, it was, of course, totally inadequate, and they would urge the Government to give this matter its early consideration.

During last Summer, the first Motor Trials had been held, and the entries had been good for Motor Cycles, but poor for Cars. There was no reason why further successful trials should not be held. Two unfortunate fatal accidents had occurred at the Trials, and the Association had sent expressions of deep regret and sympathy to the near relatives. The lesson learnt was, he thought, that it was clearly demonstrated that high speed trials by amateurs were not desirable, and the Association would not lend its support to such contests.

Garage accommodation was becoming increasingly scarce in the Colony. Most private owners were largely dependent upon the Hongkong Hotel Company for the storage of their cars, and the new Garage that Company was erecting at the entrance to Stubbs Road should relieve the pressure considerably. It was hoped that the Association would be able to accumulate funds sufficient to enable it to own its own garage, centrally situated, and where facilities and expert mechanical advice could be sought and obtained. It had been suggested that the Association should form a branch section for Motor Cyclists, and he thought this a very good idea. He was sure that the on-coming Committee would give this subject full consideration. In accordance with the decision come to at the last annual meeting, they had given up the Club Room last year, and he did not think the lack of one had been felt at all.

Before proposing the adoption of the Report and Accounts, the Chairman said he wished to refer to their Hon. Secretaries, Mr. Hodgson, who took the keenest interest in everything pertaining to motoring, and put in a lot of time on their behalf. He was constantly devising ways and means of making the Association of greater benefit to members, and it was a great pleasure to express their thanks to him for his hard work.

The Report and Accounts were unanimously adopted, and the following officials were elected for the current year:—President: Mr. H. W. Bird. Vice-President: Mr. Robert Yip. Hon. Treasurers: Messrs. Linstead and Davis. Hon. Secretary: Mr. P. M. Hodgson. Committee: Messrs. C. F. Bannerman, D. J. Lewis, C. P. Marcel, W. J. E. Mackenzie, C. A. Peel, W. E. Roberts, E. M. Sleight, C. A. Middleton-Smith, J. Smith, and G. H. Wilson.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

JAPANESE MILITARY MISSION IN HONGKONG.

PASSING THROUGH ON A TOUR TO EUROPE AND AMERICA.

There is on board the *s.s. Hakusan Maru*, which arrived yesterday morning from Japan, a Japanese Military Mission, en route for Europe, where they will make an extensive tour of European countries and from there proceed to the United States of America. The mission is headed by Lieut.-General Kameji Wada, Commandant of the Japanese Staff College, and the seven other members comprising the mission are:—

Major-General Jinzaburo Mazaki, Commandant, Officers' School.
Major-General Enjiro Kurosaki, a technical expert.
Colonel Miakiro Farisho, Chief of Staff of Mission.

Surgeon-Colonel Michiaki Mirooka, Major Shohai Washizu, Major Takamasa Exeki, and Major Masazo Kawabe.

In conjunction with the Japanese Consul-General in Hongkong the Staff at Military Headquarters arranged a very interesting programme for the reception, and entertaining of the Mission. At 10.30 a.m. H.E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops in China, attended by two staff officers paid a call on board the vessel and shortly after Lieut.-General Wada and H.E. Major-General Sir John Fowler were brought ashore in the Commodore's barge and an official landing took place at Murray Pier, where a Guard of Honour of the East Surrey Regiment with band and colours was drawn up. On landing, the Japanese National Anthem was played after which the Head of the Mission inspected the Guard of Honour. General Wada then motored to Government House to pay his respects to H.E. the Governor. Later in the morning General Wada visited Headquarters House where he was joined by the remainder of the Mission.

At 11.35 a.m. the Mission left Headquarters House and travelled across the Harbour by the Star Ferry to Kowloon, where they inspected the 24th Grenadier Battalion and a Pack Battery of the H.K.S. R.G.A. The Mission later returned to Headquarters House where they were entertained to lunch by Sir John Fowler. In the afternoon they motored round the island.

In the evening a dinner party in honour of the Mission was given at the Hongkong Hotel by the Japanese Consul-General. Besides the Military Mission the other principal guests were: H.E. Major-General Sir John Fowler, the Hon. Sir Claud Severn, C.M.G., Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher, C.M.G., Major L. C. Trench, Capt. Bennett, Capt. Macerand, and Lieut. Searle, Lieut. Goy and Mr. T. Nishiyama (President of the Japanese Association).

The Japanese Military Mission leaves Hongkong to-day for Europe via Singapore.

SUSPECTED MURDER.

ANOTHER BODY FOUND IN THE HARBOUR.

The Water Police have recovered from the Harbour near Yau-mai, the partly decomposed body of a Chinese. From all appearances, the body had been badly hacked with a knife and the police are of the opinion that the man was murdered. The matter is being investigated.

S.S. "HEUNGSHAN" STILL ON THE SAND.

The *s.s. Heungshan*, which was beached on the sand at Rock Shan on the 29th February, has not yet been released. Salvage operations are proceeding, and the vessel is gradually lifting. It is not known, however, when she will be freed, although the head office, questioned yesterday, expressed complete confidence in the vessel being eventually got off the sand and brought (in safety) to Hongkong.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

At a special general meeting of the members of the Hongkong Automobile Association held yesterday evening the following members were present:—Messrs. D. G. M. Bernard (in the chair), C. D. Lambert, D. J. Lewis, C. P. Marcel, E. M. Sleight, Robert Yip, G. H. Wilson, G. H. Bannerman, E. C. Tregillus, J. Smith, C. A. Middleton-Smith, W. J. E. Mackenzie, Capt. Riggs, E. V. Sorby, C. C. Hickling, G. M. Shaw, R. Pestonji, C. Lauritsen, T. Oliphant, J. Owen-Hughes, and P. M. Hodgson (Hon. Secretary).

The Chairman said:—This meeting has been called, as you will gather from the notice convening the meeting, just read, to ask you to sanction the increase of the annual subscription of members owning cars to \$10. As you know, the present Association was formed in 1918 it was not anticipated that there would be much need for money, as there were at that time very few motorists in the Colony. Times have changed, and the number of motorists largely increased, and with this a demand for increased facilities. Without money it is impossible to do much, and your Committee trust that you will give your unqualified support to the resolution contained in the notice, and which I am about to propose, as the advantages generally to be gained, I feel sure, will repay the small extra yearly subscription. I therefore propose the following resolution:—

"The following Rule shall be substituted for Rule No. 1 of the Rules and Constitution of the Hongkong Automobile Association:—

"Each Member shall on election pay an Entrance Fee of \$5 and Subscription of \$10 per annum in the case of owners of Cars, and \$5 in the case of owners of Motor Cycles only."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Lambert and carried unanimously.

NOTICE!!

WE BEG TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO

OUR NEW JEWELLERY AND SILVERWARE

DEPARTMENT

NOW OPEN

IN THE HONGKONG HOTEL BUILDINGS,
QUEEN'S ROAD

WHERE WE INVITE YOU TO CALL AND INSPECT THE
NEW STOCK OF

JEWELLERY

WATCHES

CLOCKS

SILVERWARE

SILVER PLATE

CUT GLASS

TABLE CUTLERY, ETC.

LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

COLD CREAM AND FACE CREAM

Daggett & Ramsell's perfect Cold Cream
Pond's Cold Cream
Parke, Davis Cold Cream
Parola Cold Cream (Theatrical)

Houbigant's En Beauté Face Cream
Hind's Honey & Almond Cream
Legrand's Secret Jelly & Borneo Juvenile
Pond's Vanishing Cream
Yardley's Face Cream
Yen-Yuen Toilet Cream
Stearns' Peroxide Cream
Stillman's Freckle Cream & Creme Simon

THE CHINA DISPENSARY

82, QUEEN'S ROAD C.

EAST OF CENTRAL MARKET.

ENGLISH RECORDS

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2247 | THE FROG AND THE MOUSE | COYLE-BARTON |
| | (17 SEVENTEEN COME SUNDAY | " |
| 3323 | IN LOVE | " |
| | (ON SUNDAY | " |
| 3346 | A LEGEND | MURIEL BROWNELL |
| | (WITH COURTELY GRACE | CONTRAZZO |
| 3327 | THE FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN THE | WILLIAM-BARTON |
| | SPRING | " |
| | (TIT WILLOW | " |

ANDERSON'S.

Powell Ltd.
TELEPHONE C. 4578.

For the
SPRING
CHILDREN'S OUTFITTING

HATS

SEMI-TRIMMED, DRESSY, PANAMA'S, ETC.

FRENCH FROCKS

in
ORGANDY & VOILE.

BOYS' SUITS

in
TUSSORE, JAP SILK & LINEN.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

QUEEN'S COLLEGE ANNUAL SPORTS.

THE above Meeting will be held at the College Ground, Causeway Bay, on THURSDAY, 20TH MARCH, commencing at Noon.
Entries are invited for the OLD BOYS' RACE (250 yards, at 4.45 P.M.) [523]

TO LET.

A FEW OFFICE ROOMS. Apply—
SECRETARY OF FINANCE BUILDING
AND LAND CO., LTD. [525]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer "MACHAON" are hereby notified that the Cargo will be discharged into the Godowns, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to terms and conditions of storage at Holt's Wharf. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Godown on and after 18th March.
Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to Steamer's arrival.
All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and Noon, within the free storage period.
No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Steamer's Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th March will be subject to rent.
All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 7th April, or they will not be recognized.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1924. [524]

S.S. "COMMANDANT MAGES" SERVICES CONTRACTUELS DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from LA-PAL-LICO, COGNAC, in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risks into the Godowns of the Hongkong-Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining undelivered after the 25th instant, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.
All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 25th instant, or they will not be recognized.
All damaged packages will be examined on Tuesday, the 25th instant, at 10 a.m., by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
R. RODENFUSSE, Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1924. [523]

VEREENIGDE NEDERLANDSCHER SCHEEPVAART-MAATSCHAPPIJ (UNITED NETHERLANDS NAVIGATION CO.)

HOLLAND-OOST AZIE LIJN (HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE).

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM, HAMBURG AND BREMEN.

THE Steamship "ALDERAMIN" (3)

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risks into the Godowns and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.
Goods not cleared by the 24th March, 1924, will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 22nd March, 1924, at 10 a.m., by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.
Claims against the Steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of steamer, otherwise they will not be recognized.
No Fire Insurance will be effected by the undersigned in any case whatever.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN, General Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1924. [514]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

From NEW YORK via MANILA.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer "ALCANTARA" are hereby notified that the Cargo will be discharged into Holt's Wharf, Kowloon, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to terms and conditions of storage at Holt's Wharf. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Godown on and after 18th March.
Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to Steamer's arrival.
All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and noon within the free storage period.
No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Steamer's Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th March will be subject to rent.
All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 7th April, or they will not be recognized.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1924. [515]

INTIMATIONS

NOTICE.

WE beg to give Notice that Mr. R. SADICK is No Longer in the Employ of the DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
DOUGLAS LARRAIK & CO., Chief Managers,
DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
[505]

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-EIGHTH YEARLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the Club House on TUESDAY, the 25th MARCH, 1924, at 5.30 P.M.
By Order,
T. A. ROBERTSON, Secretary.
Hongkong, 15th March, 1924. [513]

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HONGKONG CLUB, called in pursuance of a Resolution by more than 20 Resident Members, will be held in the Club House on TUESDAY, the 25th MARCH, 1924, immediately after the Yearly General Meeting.
Business:—
As set forth in the Notice posted in the Hall of the Club.
By Order,
T. A. ROBERTSON, Secretary.
Hongkong, 15th March, 1924. [513]

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will be held on MONDAY, MARCH 24TH, 1924, at 4 o'clock precisely, in the Old Customs or Commerce Room, City Hall, for the following purposes:—
1. To receive the Report and Accounts of the Committee for the year ending 31st December, 1923.
2. To elect a New Committee.
3. To transact any General Business.
By Order,
D. K. BLAIR, Secretary.
Hongkong, 13th March, 1924. [511]

NOTICE.

AN Anglo-Belgian Steel Association Requires Reputable, Hard-working, Experienced, Well-informed and Responsible CHINESE OR BRITISH FIRM or Individual (BROKER or AGENT) who is able to take Trade (Bars, Angles, Joists, Channels, Sheets, Plates, Galvanized Wire, Wire Nails, Tubes, Galvanized Sheets, Black Sheet, Tin Plates, Hoops and Wire Rods, Zinc and Lead Sheets). Please reply in detail to Box No. 509, c/o Hongkong Daily Press. [509]

HONGKONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

GRAND CONCERT

Under the Patronage of H.E. THE GOVERNOR
by the
SOCIETY'S CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA.
THEATRE ROYAL.
SATURDAY, 29TH MARCH, 1924, at 8.15 P.M.
Booking Opens on 17th MARCH at ANDERSON Music Co.
PRICES:—\$3, \$2, \$1. [473]

P. & O. S.S. "VALDERA"

WILL sail from KOWLOON WHARF for London and Marseilles via the usual ports on the 22ND MARCH, 1924, at Noon.
All heavy baggage should be placed on board Not Later than 5 P.M. on the 21st inst., and Cabin Baggage Not later than 10 A.M., on the Day of Sailing.
For the convenience of Passengers a Lighter will be alongside the P. & O. JETTY from Noon to 3 P.M., on FRIDAY, the 21st MARCH, to receive Baggage.
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO., Agents.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1924. [522]

TO LET.

FURNISHED HOUSE in Good Position at PEARL, Hot and Cold Baths. From Middle April to September.
Apply Box No. 429, c/o Hongkong Daily Press. [429]

PREPAID "WANTED" ADVERTISEMENTS

Letters are lying at this Office for Boxes—Y.L.

FOR SALE—MOTOR CAR—SCRIPPS BOOTH 2-seater, in Perfect Running Order. \$850 Only. Owner going Home. Apply—D. BULLINGHAM, Police Headquarters. [20]

TO LET—One Well-Lighted OFFICE ROOM on Top Floor, 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. Apply—GANDY, PRICE & CO., LTD. [18]

INTIMATIONS

THE HONGKONG DEVELOPMENT BUILDING AND SAVINGS SOCIETY, LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE SOCIETY will be held at 3.15 P.M. at the City Hall, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 19th DAY OF MARCH, 1924.
By Order,
EDWARD B. RAYMOND, Secretary.
Hongkong, 10th March, 1924. [504]

NOTICE.

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Office of the Company, 2, QUEEN'S BUILDINGS, HONGKONG, on THURSDAY, the 20th MARCH, 1924, at Noon, for consideration of the Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1923.
The SHARE REGISTER and TRANSFER BOOKS will be CLOSED from the 8th to the 20th March, 1924 (both days inclusive).
By Order of the Board of Directors,
R. M. DYER, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 4th March, 1924. [449]

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO.

THE FORTY-SIXTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Office of General Agents, PUNGER STREET, on MONDAY, the 25th MARCH, 1924, at 11.00 A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the Year ending 31st December, 1923.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 17th to the 24th March, 1924, both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Agents.
[494]

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI HOTELS, LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI HOTELS, LIMITED, will be held at THE HONGKONG HOTEL, Pedder Street, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 22ND MARCH, 1924, at 11.30 o'clock A.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Board of Directors for the Year ended the 31st December, 1923, confirming the appointment of Directors, and re-electing a Director and the Auditors.
THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from Friday, the 14th March, 1924, until Saturday, the 22nd March, 1924, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board,
PERCY H. SUCKLING, Secretary.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1924. [490]

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FIFTY-FIFTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Under-Secretary, on THURSDAY, the 27th MARCH, 1924, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, together with a Statement of Accounts for the Year ended the 31st December, 1923.
The SHARE REGISTER and TRANSFER BOOKS will be CLOSED from the 13th to the 23rd March, 1924, both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.,
HONGKONG, 6th March, 1924. [476]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

EXTRA RACE MEETING 1924.

MEMBERS' SEASON TICKETS are Now Ready and may be obtained by those Members who have not already received them from Messrs. LESTRADE & DAVIS, Alexandra Buildings.
C. B. BROWN, Secretary.
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HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE FIRST EXTRA RACE MEETING will be held (weather permitting) at HAPPY VALLEY on SATURDAY, 29th MARCH, 1924, commencing at 3 P.M.
The Charge for Admission to the Public Enclosure will be \$1. Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform, Half Price.
Members are advised that they must show their Season Tickets to obtain Admission to the Members' Enclosure.
Each Member has the right of introducing 2 Non-members to the Members' Enclosure. Tickets for whom can be obtained from Messrs. LESTRADE & DAVIS at \$5 each up to "FRIDAY, MARCH 28th."
The Stewards invite the Ladies of Hongkong to be present.
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THE CORONET

TO-DAY ALL SUNDAY

POTASH AND PERLMUTTER.

INTIMATION

DEWAR'S

The Spirit beyond compare

Most men choose DEWAR'S and small wonder! Year in and year out its distinctive character remains steadfast and incomparable.

Perfect distillation, genius in blending and gigantic stocks make DEWAR'S popularity, —and will keep it!

Dewar's White Label and Victoria Vat

As supplied to the Houses of Lords, and Commons,

By Royal appointment to His Majesty The King.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

BIRTH.

TOBE.—At Shanghai, on March 13th, to Mr. and Mrs. S. E. TOBE, a daughter.

DEATH.

BOWDLER.—On March 18th, at "Fung Shui," The Peak, Hongkong, ANNE BOWDLER, widow of the late EDWARD BOWDLER, formerly Survey-General of this Colony. Funeral at St. John's Cathedral on Wednesday (to-day) at 4.30.

Hongkong Office: 14, Chater Road.
London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MARCH 19TH, 1924.

CHINA'S ASPIRATIONS AND PRESENT CONDITION.

THE Chinese Government, a Chinese news agency states, has received a cable from the Chinese Minister in London, saying that the Director of the Far Eastern Department of the Foreign Office, had called and informed him that "owing to the disturbed conditions in China and the prevalence of bandits everywhere, the Powers are reluctant to appoint Delegates to proceed to China for the investigation of the judicial conditions there (with a view to the abolition of extraterritorial jurisdiction), and therefore the decision to send out delegates on the 1st of November is cancelled." It is not a surprising piece of information, and we have been expecting to hear, long before now, of some similar intimation in regard to the Chinese Government's request to the Powers to appoint delegates for a preliminary conference to discuss matters relating to the proposed increase of 2½ per cent. in the Customs duties. Turning up the records of the Washington Conference we see that Dr. WELLINGTON KOO (now Minister of Foreign Affairs at Peking) told the Conference that "when the proposed surtax of 2½ per cent. for ordinary articles and of 5 per cent. on certain luxuries eventually goes into effect, more revenue will be produced, but even then, it will hardly be commensurate with the rapidly-growing needs of the Chinese Government." A very interesting commentary on this statement has recently been provided by the publication of the Customs revenue

returns for the past year. The Subcommittee of the Washington Conference which considered this matter estimated that an increase to 5 per cent. effective would provide an additional revenue of \$17,000,000. The 5 per cent. was effective throughout last year, and the increased revenue was not more than Tls. 4,700,000, while the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation estimated that, if trade had been permitted to follow its normal course, the increase in the revenue should have amounted, at least, to Tls. 23 millions.

The Powers in their consideration of this subject can come to no conclusion widely different from that expressed by the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, namely that the financial problem of China, which is the direct outcome of the prevailing military tyranny, and which in the minds of foreign creditors overshadows everything else, cannot be effectively dealt with except in conjunction with other reforms, and a Customs surtax of 2½ per cent. is now utterly inadequate for that purpose. The Chairman added: "It is difficult to see how anything short of the full 7½ per cent. surtax proposed by the Mackay Treaty will meet the case, accompanied by provisions for a just apportionment of revenue to the provinces in return for the abolition of all internal taxation on trade and the relinquishment to the Central Government of what may be properly classed as national revenues. The price to be paid may seem at first sight large, but it is insignificant compared to the gain to foreign trade resulting from a restoration to peaceful conditions and good government throughout the country, which must be the indispensable guarantee demanded." A guarantee of that kind, unfortunately, is not in sight, and until it is the answer to the Chinese Government's request to be allowed to impose additional taxation can be confidently predicted.

Amongst those who left for Home by the s.s. *Trinidad* on Monday afternoon was Mrs. A. Y. Hogg, of Canton, accompanied by her children.

Mr. Khoo Hooi Hye, the Malay States Chinese Tennis Champion, will leave for Europe at the end of this month to take part in the Olympic Games at Paris and also the Davis Cup contest in America this year.

The *N.C. Daily News* says that there have been several instances recently of the untrustworthiness of the Siberian mail route. It looks as if letters are being tampered with by Soviet authorities. Letters have reached the Chinese Postal officials in a torn condition.

During the absence from the Colony of the Rev. G. T. Waldegrave, the Rev. N. A. Peel will be in charge of the work of the Missions to Seamen in Hongkong, and will also act as Hon. Secretary of the General Charities Organisation. Mr. C. Champkin has been appointed Deputy Commissioner of the Hongkong Boy Scouts.

There has arrived in Peking a Mr. Kubiak, a member of the Far Eastern Revolutionary Committee and of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party. He is on a visit to Mr. Karakhan, the Soviet Envoy. Mr. Davitian, the Councillor of the Extraordinary Plenipotentiary Mission, arrived with him from Harbin.

Yesterday one of the foremost evangelists of Japan, the Rev. M. Kanamori, addressed two meetings for Japanese in the City Hall. The first at 2 p.m. was largely attended by Japanese ladies, the one in the evening at 8 o'clock was attended by Japanese of both sexes. The evangelist is passing through Hongkong on his way to Australia.

Mrs. Dowbiggin informs us that she made a profit of \$250 at her recent concert. Of this sum she has sent \$75 to the Leper Hospital at Pakhoi and the balance in sterling, viz. \$21 12s. 7d., to the Chinese Cross Hospital. Mrs. Dowbiggin adds that she is very grateful to all who so kindly helped her in the effort on behalf of these deserving charities.

Shanghai's experiment in dealing with vice, undertaken four years ago in accordance with a programme laid down by a Vice Commission, is a failure so far as effecting any betterment of the moral tone of the Settlement. This is the judgment of the police authorities set forth in a communication written by Deputy Commissioner of Police in Charge A. HILLON JOHNSON and published in the *Municipal Gazette*.

Li Sum Ling, whom the late Mr. Gordon Bennett, one time owner of the *New York Herald* took with him to the United States when he visited Hongkong some years ago, and made him famous in America as a sort of unofficial ambassador of China, has recently been appointed Commissioner of Foreign Affairs at Loyang (Marshall Wu Pei-fu's headquarters). Mr. Li Sum Ling, when Mr. Gordon Bennett discovered him, was working in a Hongkong newspaper office. He was lent to Mr. Bennett as an interpreter and guide.

After an absence of more than a year Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Bain have returned to Shanghai. When he left Shanghai Mr. Bain was in indifferent health, but his stay in Europe has had the most beneficial effect, and he has recovered his former strength and vigour.

The number of small-pox cases notified in the Colony last week was 31 and there were 31 deaths from the disease. One was a British case and the rest Chinese. The weekly return of notifiable diseases also includes 6 cases of enteric fever with 3 deaths; 2 cases of diphtheria, 1 death; 4 cases of cerebro-spinal fever, 2 deaths. Also 1 case of scarlet fever and 1 of paratyphoid.

Since the revival of *pari mutuel* in Japan, the *Hokkai* says, the horse race fever is epidemic all over the country. In Tokyo tickets sold at the first four days' meetings amounted to ¥2,000,000, and a better result is anticipated at the second meeting, which is to take place on April 26th and 27th, and May 3rd and 4th. No spring races will be held in Yokohama, where the buildings and course were badly hit by the quake and are not yet restored to a normal state.

The dwelling of Mr. Horatio Robertson at 73, Seachuen Road, Shanghai, was robbed last week by two coolies. The thefts amounted to a total value of Tls. 100,000—a tin box, which contained little deeds to 20 mow of land and scrip debentures, and other valuables, which they had taken from the room of the housekeeper. Several articles of jewellery were taken from different drawers in the house—a watch, gold pencil and scarf pin. The police recovered the deed box unopened, and also some of the jewellery. The thieves were sentenced in the Mixed Court to five months' gaol.

The Chinese who was remanded on Monday on a charge of unlawfully having in his possession two automatic pistols on board the s.s. *President Madison* was again brought before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy, yesterday. Mr. G. R. Hayward defending, said that his client had been in Mexico for 17 years, and returned to China on hearing that his mother and brother had been murdered by robbers. The arms were not intended for Hongkong. Inspector Spear said that when the defendant was asked to declare he said he had no arms. He later produced one gun. When his trunk was searched the other pistol was found as well as a quantity of ammunition concealed in the sides of the trunk. His Worship asked if the defendant could produce the letter stating that his mother and brother had been murdered. The defendant replied that it had been destroyed. Mr. Wood reserved his decision until this morning.

Among residents who are leaving for Home on the P. & O. *Valdera* are the Hon. Mr. A. O. Lang, Mr. A. G. M. Fletcher, C.M.G., Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Wood, Lieut.-Col. W. N. Nicholson, D.S.O., and Mrs. Nicholson, Mr. J. T. Bagram, Mr. Temple Bevan, M.C., Capt. and Mrs. A. M. Collinson, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Courtenay, and Mr. R. M. Colvin, C.B.E., Mr. H. B. L. Dowbiggin, Lieut.-Comdr. A. Eveleigh, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Holmes, Mrs. E. B. C. Hornell, Mr. P. C. Jacks, Commander B. J. G. Johns, Capt. R. M. Newton King, Mr. and Mrs. J. Morris, Mr. T. D. O'Sullivan, Mrs. H. R. Phillips, Mr. L. C. Parker Rees, Mrs. C. P. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Stephen, Mrs. Syme Thomson, Capt. M. H. Spicer, Mr. J. S. Vergette, Mrs. P. Douglas Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. R. Wilton.

COL. NICHOLSON'S DEPARTURE.

TO REJOIN REGIMENT AT GIBRALTAR.

The departure of Lieut.-Colonel W. N. Nicholson, C.M.G., D.S.O., from the Colony on Saturday by the s.s. *Valdera*, will be regretted by a large circle of friends. Col. Nicholson, who was married last week to Miss Phyllis Higgs, has fulfilled the very responsible post of D.A.A., Q.M.G. at Headquarters, China Command, during the whole of his period of service in Hongkong, just over four years. During that time he has been exceedingly popular with officers and men of the Garrison and his courteous manner, and obliging disposition has made him many friends in the Colony. Colonel and Mrs. Nicholson are not proceeding Home on the P. & O. *Valdera*, but disembark at Gibraltar where he will rejoin his Regiment, the 1st Suffolk, as Second in Command after many years of absence on Staff work. The 1st Suffolk have recently been moved from India to Gibraltar.

OBITUARY.

MRS. BOWDLER.

A very old resident of the Colony passed away yesterday in the person of Mrs. Bowdler, who was the first European lady to live at the Peak, and it is curious to add that during her long residence here she had never crossed the harbour. She was the widow of the late Mr. Edward Bowdler who from 1874 to 1880 was Assistant Surveyor-General in the Colony, a designation which he was the last to bear in the service. Mrs. Bowdler was formerly a regular attendant at the services at St. John's Cathedral and gave to the Cathedral a very fine *serenos* which was dedicated in December 1921. She lived at "Fung Shui," The Peak, where she passed away at midday yesterday. In spite of her advanced age her mind was definitely clear to the last.

The first part of the funeral service will be held in St. John's Cathedral at 4.30 p.m. to-day and the remaining portion at the graveside at Happy Valley where she will be buried in the same grave as her husband. She had no children.

CABLES.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
SENSATIONAL ESPIONAGE
CHARGES.

FRENCH ARMY CAPTAIN HELD BY
GERMANS.

THREE GERMAN ACCOMPLICES SENTENCED.

BERLIN, March 17th.

The Supreme Court at Leipzig sentenced a Swiss cinema manager named Biez to eleven years' penal servitude for espionage on behalf of France.

Three German accomplices, two soldiers and one woman, were sentenced respectively to thirteen years, two and a half years' and two years' imprisonment.

It is alleged that Biez acted under orders from a French Captain named Darmont, who, it is alleged, is head of the present French espionage service at Bale. He is to be tried at Leipzig on March 20th.

The French authorities in the occupied region are holding two prominent Germans as hostages for Captain Darmont.

INDIAN BOLSHEVIKS.

EIGHT NATIVES UNDER TRIAL AT
CANNING.

CANNING, March 17th.

The trial has opened of eight Indians, alleged to be Bolshevik agents, who are charged with conspiring to establish a Communist International organisation all over India. Four of the accused are absent, two of them, Mahendra Nath Roy and another, residing outside India. Colonel Kays, Director of the Intelligence Bureau of the Government of India, gave evidence that Indian revolutionaries convened a meeting at Moscow in 1921 when they decided on a programme for the furtherance of Bolshevik propaganda with Roy as leader.

INDIAN FINANCE BILL.

ASSEMBLY PRESERVES ITS
DIGNITY.

DELHI, March 17th.

The Viceroy returned the Finance Bill to the Legislative Assembly with a recommendation to pass it with a salt tax of one rupee four annas. Other minor changes were recommended.

Sir B. P. Blackett (Minister of Finance) introduced and recommended the Bill to the Assembly. Pandit Moti Lal Nehru opposed the Bill on the ground that the manner in which it had been introduced was an affront to the House. He said he intended to make an appeal to the Viceroy, but he was judged that the elected members had been taken by surprise, and appealed to the Assembly to preserve the dignity of the House and to vote against the Bill.

The Bill was thrown out without a division, amidst Swarajist applause. The Bill will go to the Council of State tomorrow for discussion on Saturday, when it is confidently expected that it will be passed and then become law.

EARLIER CABLES.

SIR M. HAILEY WARNS
SWARAJISTS.

DELHI, March 17th.

Amid the Swarajists' cheers, the Legislative Assembly rejected the Finance Bill by 60 votes to 37, after Sir M. Hailey had declared that obstruction would prejudice the Swarajist case and that the British Parliament would view rejection as a demonstration of irresponsibility.

LATEST CABLES.

LIGHTNING DOCK STRIKE
AT ROTTERDAM.

SHIPS LYING IDLE IN THE
HARBOUR.

ROTTERDAM, March 17th.

An unauthorised strike led by extremist agitators broke out in the harbour and spread quickly. No steamers could be discharged on Monday.

RUBBER SLUMP IN LONDON
FALL DUE TO HEAVY SELLING.

LONDON, March 17th.

Rubber in London fell yesterday to 11d. per pound, the lowest quotation since October 1922. The fall is attributed to heavy selling by speculators, principally of forward positions.

STRICTER FRENCH TAXES.

NEW METHODS OF KEEPING
CONTROL.

PARIS, March 17th.

The Senate adopted by 210 votes to 86, thirty-two Articles of the Finance Bill, among which were taxation of stocks and dividends through a rigid control of coupon books.

The Government was not faced with a want of confidence motion, a number of Senators having decided to show spontaneously their confidence in M. Poincaré. (Havas News Agency).

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH ARMY ESTIMATES.
EX-OFFICER LABOUR M.P.
ANSWERS PACIFIST.

REDUCTION AMENDMENT REJECTED.

LONDON, March 17th.

The phrase "the Government according to the sermon on the Mount" did yeoman service in the House of Commons in the discussion of the Army estimates, when Mr. Ayles (Labour) moved for a reduction of the gross personnel of 161,000 by 150,000. The amendment was supported by several other Labour Members and was finally rejected by 347 to 13.

Mr. Ayles declared that the amendment was intended to protest against the militaristic trend of our army policy. He stated that the nation which was brave enough to lay down its arms in the midst of an armed world would be the only safe nation. Numerous Labour M.P.s, however, eloquently opposed the resolution, notably Col. John Ward, who drew forth cheers by stating that any man who would not defend their grand old country was unworthy of the name of Englishman. Mr. Montague said they wanted idealism to have its feet on the ground even if its head be in the clouds.

VALUE OF THE NAVY.

MR. AMMON EXPLAINS & S. O. OF
TRADE "PROTECTION."

LONDON, March 17th.

In the House of Commons, replying to Com. Bellairs, Mr. Ammon stated that the aggregate value of Empire trade in 1922 in Eastern waters east of Africa was £1,100,000,000. The cost of maintenance of British squadrons, including ships of the Dominion navies, in Eastern waters, and in the Pacific, was £3,542,000.

GERMAN PACIFIST LEADER
ARRESTED.

FOR DENOUNCING GENERAL
MILITARY TRAINING.

BERLIN, March 17th.

The German pacifist leader, professor Quide, has been arrested at Munich by order of the Public Prosecutor, in connection with a letter he is alleged to have sent recently to General Von Seeckt declaring that youths are undergoing military training all over Germany under Reichswehr supervision.

HOME ENGINEERS' STRIKE.
LOCKOUT BY EMPLOYERS
THREATENED.

LONDON, March 17th.

The shipbuilding employers' federation threatens a national lockout unless a speedy settlement be reached in the unofficial strike of engineers at Southampton, who are demanding an increase of seventeen and six pence, to bring them in line with the London dock workers. The federation has summoned a full joint meeting at Carlisle on March 20th.

PERSIA TO BE A REPUBLIC?
REPORTED MOVE TO DETHRONE
THE SHAH.

TEHRAN, March 17th.

The Progressive party, which with Socialist support has a majority in Parliament, has issued a statement in favour of the dethronement of the Shah and the establishment of a republic.

NEW GUINEA COMPANY.
DENIAL THAT GERMAN GOVERN-
MENT IS PARTICIPATING.

BERLIN, March 17th.

It is semi-officially denied that the German Government is in anywise participating in the Netherlands German New Guinea Company.

NEW DUTCH MINISTER FOR
ROMANIA.

THE HAGUE, March 17th.

Baron Van Nagell, a Councillor of the Dutch Legation at Berlin, has been appointed Minister to Rumania.

HOME FOOTBALL.
First League result: Burnley, 3; Man-
chester City, 2.

LATEST CABLES.

OBITUARY.
SIR FREDERICK BRIDGE, C.V.O.

LONDON, March 17th.

The death is reported of Sir Frederick Bridge.

[Sir Frederick Bridge, the famous musician and organist, was one of the outstanding figures in contemporary music. Born at Oldbury, in Worcestershire, in 1844, he was educated at the Cathedral School, Rochester. From the age of six until he was fifteen he sang in the choir at Rochester Cathedral, where he became assistant organist, his first marriage taking place in 1872. In 1892 he became King Edward Professor of Music at London University, and was Organist at Westminster Abbey from 1878 to 1918. Sir Frederick, who was a member of the Atheneum Club, was the author of several profound works on music, and the composer of countless cantatas and oratorios. He was knighted in 1897, became an M.V.O. in 1902, and C.V.O. nine years later.]

M.P.'S PREPARE FOR WORK.
MR. BALDWIN'S RETORT TO MR.
CLYNES.

LONDON, March 17th.

The House of Commons unanimously passed a motion that the Government take the whole time of the House until the end of the financial year. Mr. Clynès, in moving the motion, emphasised that the taking of private members' time was inevitable owing to the very heavy programme of financial business. The Government did not propose to take any legislation before the second reading of the Consolidated Fund Bill on March 20th, except the Local Authorities Emergency Provision Bill, which was non-contentious.

Mr. Baldwin, in intimating that the Opposition would not oppose the motion, pointed out that the objection previously was to taking the time of Conservative and Liberal, and not Labour Members.

LATEST CABLES.

REUTERS' AMERICAN SERVICE.
WORLD FLIGHT ATTEMPT BY
U.S. AIRMEN.

REPORTED START FROM CALI-
FORNIA.

SANTA MONICA, California, March 17th.

Three Army aviators started this morning on a trip round the world. Major Frederick Martin is commanding the flight, which will begin with a four-hundred mile stage to Sacramento. SACRAMENTO, March 17th.

The party of American aviators who are attempting to fly round the world have arrived here.

EARLIER CABLES.

GREAT PAPER PASSES OUT.
"N.Y. HERALD" TO BE MERGED
WITH THE "TRIBUNE."

NEW YORK, March 17th.

Mr. Ogden Reid, the Editor and Managing Director of the Tribune, announces that he has purchased the New York Herald including the Paris edition, from Mr. Frank Munsey. The Herald will be combined with the Tribune.

PRESIDENT OBREGON.
PETROLEUM COMPANY OFFICIAL
DENIES CHARGES.

MEXICO CITY, March 17th.

The Vice President of the E. Aguila Petroleum Corporation, in a letter to the newspapers, most emphatically denies President Obregon's charges of aiding the revolution.

PRESIDENT AND PASSION
PLAYERS.
LETTER REGRETTING WHITE
HOUSE INCIDENT.

WASHINGTON, March 17th.

President Coolidge has written to Anton Lang, of the Oberammergau Passion players, regretting that any misunderstanding should have marked their visit to the White House.

WILL LA FOLLETTE STAND
FOR PRESIDENCY?

REPORTED ACCEPTANCE ON
CONDITIONS.

WASHINGTON, March 17th.

Senator La Follette has agreed to accept the third party nomination to the Presidency if the Republican convention again nominates Mr. Coolidge, and adopts the Conservative platform.

U.S. SNUB TO FRANCE.
M. JUSSELAND'S SUGGESTION
REJECTED.

WASHINGTON, March 17th.

Mr. Secretary Hughes, in a note to M. Jusserand, on December 14th, just published, rejects the French suggestion to create an international agency to deal with questions arising from the relief credits extended to European countries during and just after the war.

U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW.
CENSUS OF 1930 RETAINED FOR
SCHEDULE.

WASHINGTON, March 17th.

The Johnson Immigration Bill is being reintroduced into the House of Representatives. It retains the 1930 census as the basis for calculating the two per cent quota of immigrants.

THE DAVIS CUP.
AUSTRALIA PLAYS CHINA.

WINNER OF THIS MATCH TO MEET MEXICO.

WASHINGTON, March 17th.

The draw for the Davis Cup was made at the White House. President Coolidge drawing the first name. The Ambassadors and Ministers of the twenty-three entered nations drew for their respective countries. The European zone comprised seventeen nations and the American zone six. Owing to the odd number of the European zone the draw required fifteen byes, the only first-round match being the British Isles versus Belgium.

In the American zone in the first round Cuba plays Canada, and Australia plays China, with Japan and Mexico byes. In the European zone in the second round Ireland meets France, Holland meets India, South Africa meets Argentina, Denmark meets Hungary, Italy plays Rumania, Austria plays Switzerland, and New Zealand, to meet Czechoslovakia; while Spain plays the winner of the British Isles vs. Belgium match. In the American second round, Japan meets the winner of the Cuba-Canada match, and Mexico plays the winner of Australia vs. China.

FAR EASTERN CABLE
NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

JAPANESE POLICE SENT TO
PRISON.

THEFT OF DRUG FROM FELLOW
COUNTRYMAN.

SHANGHAI, March 18th.

Two Japanese policemen of the local Consulate-General who had been detained in custody on a charge of seizing and secretly selling for \$13,000, twelve pounds of heroin which was in the possession of a Japanese resident, were yesterday sentenced by the Consular Court to two years and twenty months' imprisonment, respectively.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUREAU.
OFFICIAL OPENING BEFORE LARGE
GATHERING.

SHANGHAI, March 18th.

The new Bureau of Foreign Affairs for Kiangsu was formally opened here yesterday in the presence of Chinese officials, the Consular body, Foreign Naval and Military officers, and many representative foreigners in the district.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY BALL.
FIVE HUNDRED PEOPLE DANCE AT
THE CARLTON.

SHANGHAI, March 18th.

The St. Patrick's Day Ball at the Carlton last night was a great success, over five hundred people attending.

DINNER "TO MR. STITT."
PRIOR TO SAILING FOR HOME
ON LEAVE.

SHANGHAI, March 18th.

Mr. Stitt, the Manager of the local Branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on the eve of his departure for home on leave was entertained to dinner last Sunday night by his friends. Judge Grain presided and toasted the guest of the evening. Other speeches were made by Mr. Burkill representing the Stewards of the Race Club, Mr. Fessenden on behalf of the Municipal Council, and Mr. John Prentiss, who represented commercial interests.

RUSSIANS' FLIGHT IN CHINA.
ANXIOUS TO PULL RICKSHAWS
IN SHANGHAI.

LONDON, March 17th.

A correspondent writes to the Times, drawing attention to the drift of thousands of Russian refugees in China, giving as an instance the fact that some are applying for licences as rickshaw-pullers in Shanghai. The writer urges the Government to draw the Russian Government's attention to the matter.

JAPANESE EARTHQUAKE REPORT.
FEARS ENTERTAINED OF LOSS
OF LIFE.

TOKYO, March 18th.

A strong earthquake is reported to have occurred at Toyohara, Saghalien on March 15th. Buildings were thrown down and casualties are feared.

ARRESTED JAPANESE FREE.
EVIDENCE REPORTED TO BE
INSUFFICIENT.

TOKYO, March 18th.

A special message to the Asahi from Vladivostok reports that Capt. Matsui of the Japanese General Staff and others who were imprisoned some weeks ago, have been released owing to insufficiency of evidence. It is expected that all will be deported.

PHASE OF HONGKONG LIFE.
WOOLWICH M.P. ASKS QUESTION
IN COMMONS.

LONDON, March 16th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Snell (Labour M.P. for East Woolwich) asked whether the Secretary of State for the Colonies was aware that it was part of the duties of a Government official in Hongkong to pass young girls into brothels in the Colony, and whether he proposed to take any action in the matter.

Mr. J. H. Thomas replied that the object of the practice was purely protective—(Cries of "Oh!")

COMMONS AND CHINESE LABOUR.
QUERY ON INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTIONS.

LONDON, March 17th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Baker asked what steps the British Government proposed to take, in the extra-territorial districts of China under British control, to support the request of the Chinese Government that the International Labour Conventions should be applied to territories under non-Chinese sovereignty. Mr. MacDonald replied that no such request had been received.

GOVERNMENT & SINGAPORE
MR. AMERY'S REGRETS.

The Right Hon. L. M. S. Amery, formerly First Lord of the Admiralty, in the course of an address at the Royal Colonial Institute on February 10th, dealt with naval defence in the Pacific, and he took the opportunity of replying to the Government in regard to the Singapore Base question.

While admitting the increasing menace in all development, Mr. Amery declared that nothing in that menace affected in the slightest degree the fact that the main defence of the British Isles as of the Empire as a whole still rested upon the maintenance of our sea communications, and nothing but an efficient Navy could maintain those communications. "The fleets of the future," said Mr. Amery, "will each be a great complex, including many forms of vessels, but the capital ship will always remain the final and kernel of that complex. And the nation that endeavours to do without it will find that all the lighter forms of craft will be driven off the sea by the nation which has behind it the more powerful craft. We cannot afford to go below the standard of at least equality with other nations. We cannot afford to be clearly and obviously at the absolute mercy of any other Power."

Mr. Amery said we must be free to keep a force of some reasonable strength in Pacific waters as well as to have the possibility of moving a larger force there. That was in no sense a novel policy. Our future fleet would be entirely oil burning, and they could not have a mobile fleet unless they built up a chain of oil reserves at which the fleet could replenish its fuel. It was the necessity for having such a base on the Empire's high road to the Pacific which decided the late Government to develop and extend the previously existing naval station at Singapore. He regretted that the Government had stopped the present vote and commitments, although as a matter of fact that was on the very smallest scale at the moment. "I was, however, glad to hear from a spokesman of the Government," added Mr. Amery, "that the whole question is being carefully investigated, and that no decision will be taken without consultation with the Dominions affected."

SOVIET DESIGNS IN
MONGOLIA.

RUSSIA, February 12th.

The interest taken in Mongolia by Moscow has recently become very evident. It is reported from Moscow that the Soviet Government is preparing the ground for the declaration of a Mongolian Soviet Republic and its admission into the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics. Notwithstanding that the presence of Soviet forces in Mongolia is disliked by the people, the Bolsheviks have recently staged several demonstrations demanding the continuation of the military occupation of Mongolia.

It is reported that a German expedition for the investigation of the mining possibilities of Mongolia has passed through Urga. Meanwhile negotiations for the conclusion of a Russo-Mongolian trade agreement are continuing, and Moscow shows the greatest interest in Mongolian horses, which it desires for cavalry mounts. Karakhan has presented to China a protest against the alleged support of the Siberian insurgents, declaring that should the anti-Bolsheviks flee over the frontier the Reds will pursue them. It is reported that General Tukhachevsky, hitherto commanding the Ukrainian forces, has been appointed chief of the Moscow garrison in the place of General Marloff, who has been transferred to Leningrad (Petrograd).

[BY COURTESY OF THE "DAILY BULLETIN."]

SINO-RUSSIAN SITUATION.

PEKING, March 17th.

No developments were reported to-day regarding the Sino-Russian situation. Dr. C. T. Wang proceeded to Tadghash yesterday and returned to Peking to-day. The last communication from M. Karakhan contained the arbitrary announcement that China must reply within three days.

It is not anticipated that this will be done. The American and Japanese Legations emphatically deny the reports that the American and Japanese Ministers have made representations to the Waichow in connection with the proposed Sino-Russian settlement.

The Cabinet met this morning and considered the Note from M. Karakhan. In official circles it is asserted that the situation is not altered by to-day's discussion, and that the Government is merely waiting for more convincing assurances from M. Karakhan regarding the undertakings he is prepared to give in principle.

According to an unofficial statement, the situation may be summed up thus: The Cabinet desires the cancellation of all Russian treaties with China and with Mongolia, and that the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Mongolia shall take effect from the date on which the settlement is signed, whereas the Soviet representatives expect recognition will take effect from that date, but for the other questions to be the subject of official negotiations, subsequently, in accordance with the principles agreed upon in the settlement. This statement is highly credible in view of the convincing assurances required by the Chinese Government.

CONCERT AT THE MILITARY
HOSPITAL.

The patients at the Military Hospital, Bowen Road, were accorded a special treat last evening in the form of a concert organised by No. 27 Company, R.A.M.C. Much of the success of the concert was due to Mr. Charles Olive, who was mainly responsible for the arranging of the affair. Since his arrival in Hongkong he has proved himself to be a very useful adjunct to the social life of the Garrison. He is a theatrical actor of no mean ability. At last night's concert he played the principal part in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's one act drama, "Waterloo," acting with his usual skill the very difficult part of Corporal Gregory Brewster, an aged N.C.O., who went through Waterloo. He was ably assisted in the piece by Mr. Gregory White as Sergeant Archie McDonald, R.A., and Mr. Charles Stewart as Colonel Midwinter and Miss Pearl Ogilvie as the aged Corporal's grandniece. Altogether the piece was well performed and the large audience was unstinted in its applause.

Mrs. Clements, who contributed to the programme, was also warmly applauded for her singing. Others who contributed to the programme were: Miss Conway, Mr. Annis and Mr. Alcock, all of whom acquitted themselves well. In the second half of the programme Mr. Olive obliged with a monologue entitled "The Bell," which is perhaps one of the best of his extensive repertoire.

Mr. Licence made a very efficient accompanist and Mr. J. K. McMurrah fulfilled the duties of stage manager.

A NEW CALENDAR WANTED
CHINESE SENATOR'S LEGISLATIVE
PROPOSAL.

The following item of news is circulated by the Asiatic News Agency (Peking):

"Senator Che Fu-wei has submitted a Bill on the improvement of the Calendar of the world, and he requests Parliament to submit same to the League of Nations for consideration. His object is to hasten the establishment of Utopia in the world by urging all the nations and all religions to adopt his Calendar. He points out that there are only two kinds of good calendars in use, one Chinese and the other European. As both of them have defects and weak points, he therefore desires that they shall be mixed up and modified. The first day of spring shall be the first day of the year. One year shall consist of 365 days and the month shall either be thirty or thirty-one days. His Bill consists of more than 10,000 characters and is full of technical quotations."

THE GAME OF CHESS.

MAGISTRATE HOLDS IT TO BE A
GAME OF SKILL.

Mr. E. W. Hamilton, at the Magistrate's yesterday morning, held that the game of chess was a game of skill. The case was one in which a Chinese chess professional was charged with gambling. According to the case for the prosecution the defendant was running several games of chess outside the Chinese Recreation ground in Hollywood Road.

His Worship after hearing the evidence amended the charge to one of causing an obstruction. He warned the defendant not to play for money, and if possible not to play in the streets. The defendant was discharged with a caution.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S FORTH-
COMING CONCERT.

The above Society's first concert of the present season in December has achieved so great a success that the members view with confidence their next effort at the City Hall on Saturday, the 28th March.

The principal concerted item on the programme will be Sir Charles Villiers Stanford's "The Revenge," a very dramatic and pleasing work in which the chorus and a fine string orchestra, under the baton of Mr. S. Collett, hope to render a good account of themselves.

In addition to other items for chorus and orchestra, including solo work by well-known vocalists, and some unaccompanied part songs, the orchestra will play two of Edward German's charming dances from "Henry VIII." Two songs by the talented soprano, Mrs. G. A. Clements, will also be found on the programme. It is a pity that the date selected for the concert clashes with one or two other events in Hongkong, but in spite of this, a heavy booking is anticipated. The plan is now open at The Anderson Music Co., where an early visit should be paid to secure seats.

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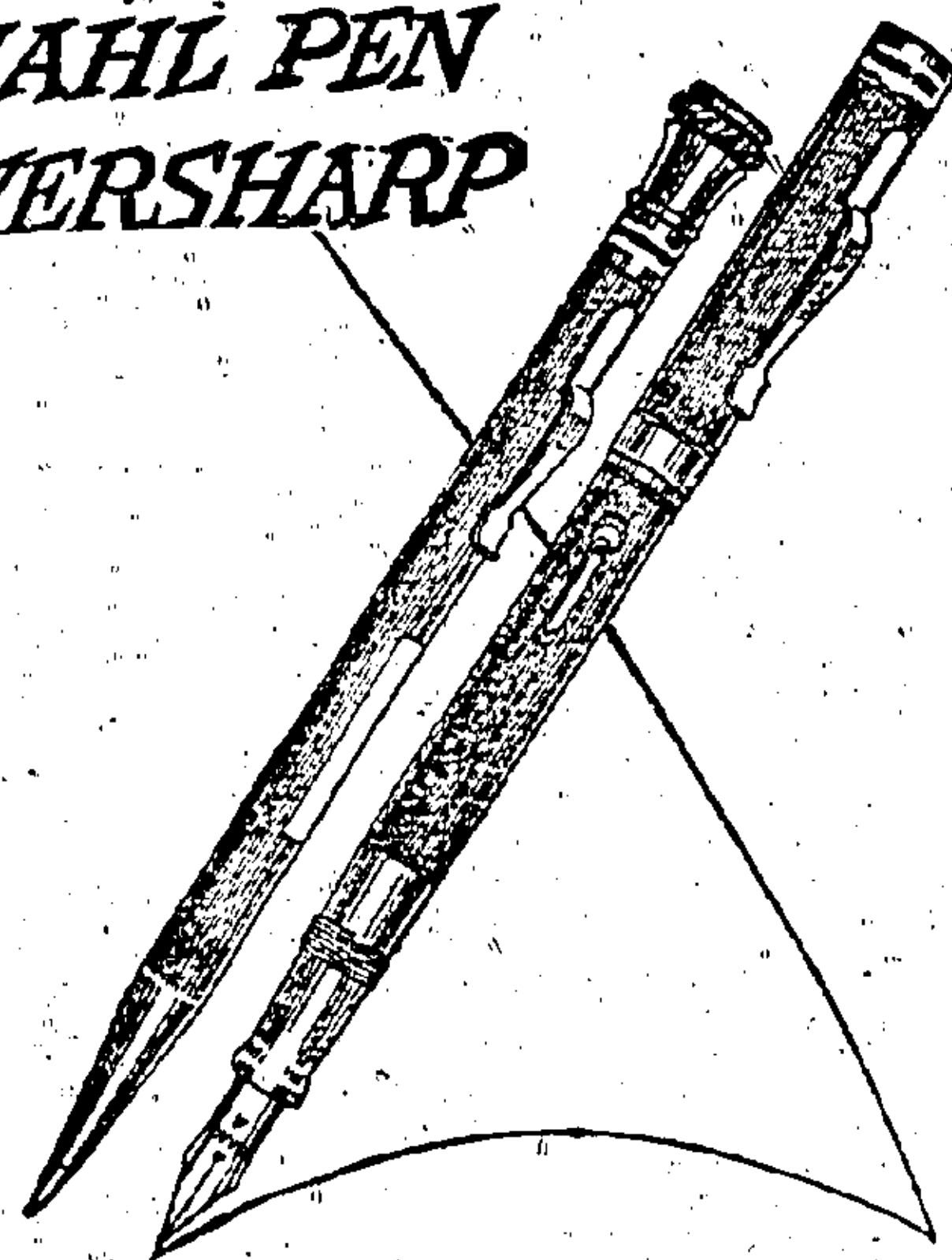
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ENGLAND SETS STANDARD FOR
BALL-ROOM DANCING.

It is an interesting fact, conforming, perhaps, to the psychology of our race, that while an English audience will welcome with ecstasy a foreign dancer in our midst, it is England that leads the dancing world, and sets the standard for the fox-trot, the tango, or the one-step, says the *Daily Telegraph* of February 17th. That paper continues:—This rather startling disclosure—for it is a disclosure to most people, whether they dance or not—was made by Mons. Camille de Rhyal yesterday in the course of a talk on the World's Dancing Championships, which takes place on March 3rd and 4th at the Queen's Hall, and for which *The Daily Telegraph* is, as in former years, offering the two Championship Cups, one for the gentleman and the other for his partner, amateurs or professionals. There are group championships for amateur couples, i.e., an amateur dancing with a professional, but it is the world's championship that will bring to London, for these two nights the most accomplished dancers, not only of this country, but of France, Belgium, Denmark, Hungary, Holland, and other European countries. The preliminary heats have already been commenced in London, notably at the Elysée Restaurant, Coventry Street, and between now and the end of the month there will be many other selective dances in the London suburbs, at Crickham, Kent, Bayswater, and Streatham, etc., as well as in the provinces, the list for next week including heats at Manchester, Cambridge, Reading, and Brighton.

Similar keenness is being displayed on the Continent, for *The Daily Telegraph* Cups are a much-coveted prize, and Mons. de Rhyal, who is one of the organizers of the championships, has recently been to Holland, at the request of the Dutch teachers, to explain to them the high standard which will be required, either in the waltz, fox-trot, one-step, or tango. The "blues" will occupy an important position in the competitions, and it is hoped that as a result of the championship some uniform standard will be evolved, in much the same way that the contest did so well last year in setting a standard for the tango. At present the "blues" is passing through its "shaking" period in London, but its founder—and it was Mons. de Rhyal who copyrighted the name—declares that it must be performed more smoothly than it is now either in Paris or New York. Actually the "blues" is a modification of the "camel walk." All the most recent dances seem to have passed through this transition period of "jerk and bumping," arriving finally at the "gracefully gliding" stage, which is really a "merry sort of walk and turning in time with the music." Danced in this way the one-step or the fox-trot is not exhausting, but a charming pastime more suited to those who have passed their first youth than ever the scottish-sor-waltz was.

In Germany and Central Europe generally it seems that they are still performing the fox-trot in the primitive style in which it was brought to Europe in 1914-15. Such dancing is no longer tolerated here, but in Berlin and Vienna they still dance in the old fashion, their own explanation being that during the war there was a wall raised round them which prevented them from realising how much the style of dancing had been altered. There is now a widespread desire on the Continent to adopt the English style, and whether in Germany, in Switzerland, or even in Paris, if an exhibition of ball-room dancing is required, it is an English couple who are sought for, because of their refinement and native deportment.

SWINDLER WITH 7 WIVES.

The remarkable case of Antonio Llasia y Buse, a Spaniard, and a much-married man—he had no fewer than seven wives—came before the Fourteenth Chamber of the Correctional Tribunal, Paris, on February 12th. He was not in court, for he is at present in Barcelona prison, and is wanted by the police authorities in many cities in Europe and South America, but he was sentenced to five years imprisonment in default for swindling affairs, from which he is reported to have netted 4,000,000f. His is an extraordinary story of the "stranger than fiction" variety. Leaving his native village in the province of Barcelona, he went to South America, posed as a captain in the Spanish army, and succeeded in relieving a wealthy dealer of a large sum of money at Guayaquil. Shortly afterwards he put the captain's uniform aside, tricked himself out in the garments of a priest, and burgled a jeweller's shop. He now embarked on his matrimonial career, marrying his first wife at Monte Video, his second at Uro in Bolivia a few days later, his third at Guayaquil, his fourth at Valencia in Venezuela, his fifth at San Jose, Costa Rica; his sixth, the daughter of the police chief at Havana; and his seventh at Barcelona. When he contracted his last marriage, in the summer of 1916, he was no longer Antonio Llasia y Buse, but "Fernando Marquis de Bonilla, descendant of one of the most illustrious Venezuelan families." He abandoned his wife fifteen days later, taking with him 7,000 pesos. Arrested and confined in a lunatic asylum at Barcelona, he escaped, and for two years he rushed through Europe, visiting London, Brussels, Rome, Constantinople, Prague, and Sofia. Naturally he had business in all these capitals. It took the form of presenting spurious letters of credit. He was always in a hurry, and so that he could go about his business quickly, he often availed himself of the air-services. It is told of him that on November 10th, 1921, he received 200,000f in a bank at Prague at nine a.m., and performed the same operation at Paris the same afternoon. He was a master in the art of disguise, and in his prison cell in Barcelona he informed the French police officer sent to question him that on one occasion he succeeded in passing himself off as the King of Spain in the Isle of Mauritius, where a sumptuous reception was prepared for him.

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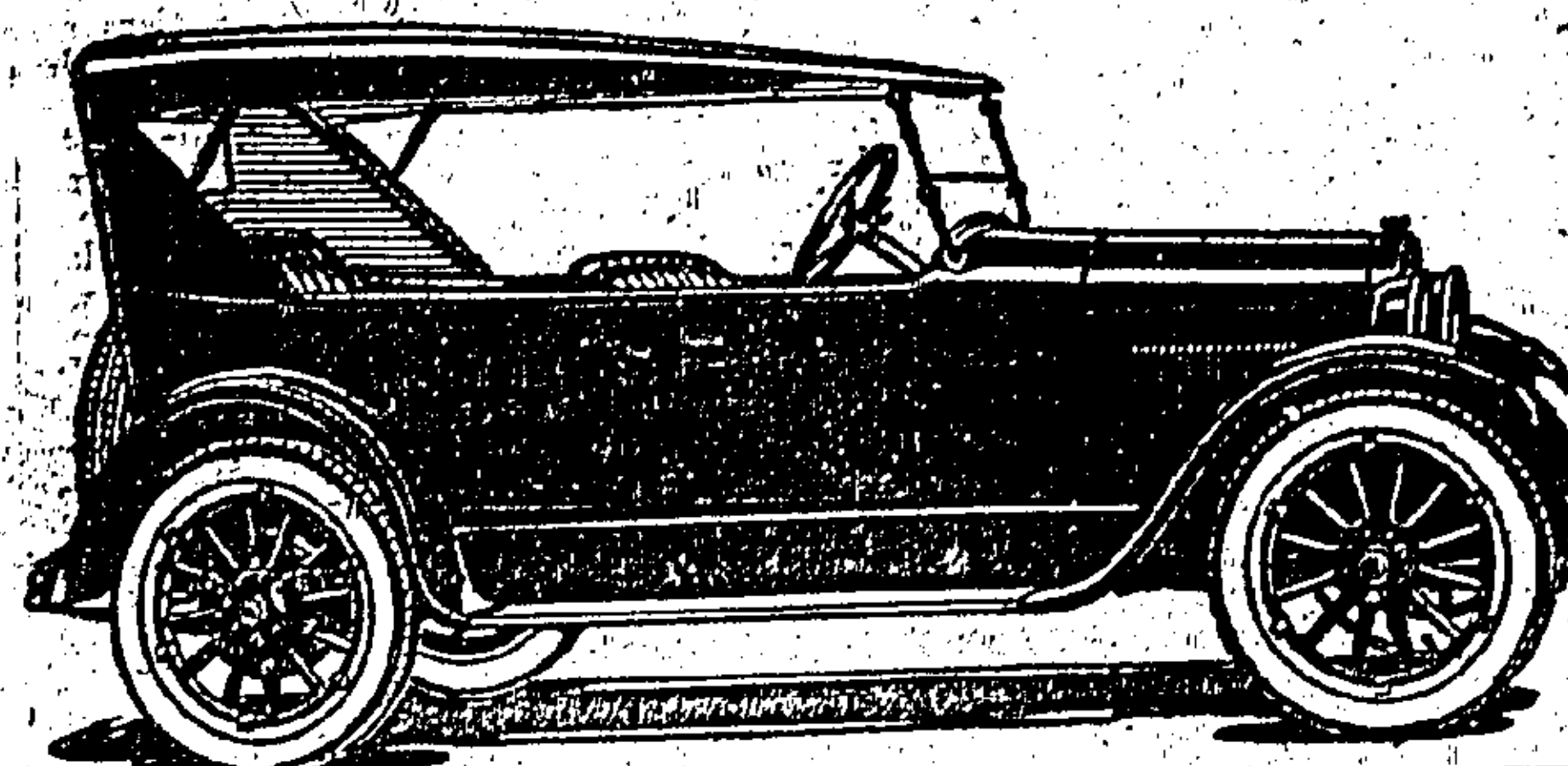
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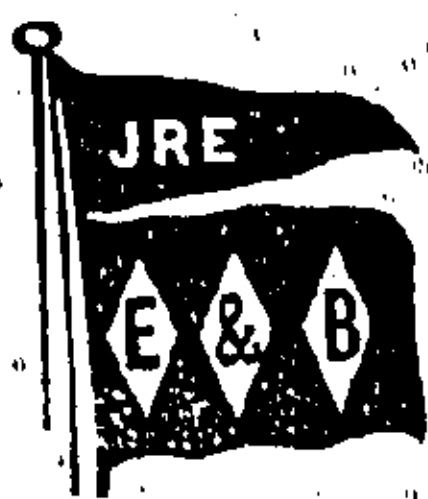
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"SOUDAN"	6,686	13th May	Shanghai.
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"TALMA"	10,000	30th May	do.
"JAPAN"	6,052	7th June	Moji & Kobe.
"KASHMIR"	8,963	11th June	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.
"SOUDAN"	6,686	13th June	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.
"KALYAN"	9,118	27th June	do.
"TALMA"	10,000	5th July	Moji & Kobe.
"JAPAN"	6,052	10th July	Shanghai.
"KASHMIR"	8,963	11th July	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.
"SOUDAN"	6,686	25th July	do.
"KALYAN"	9,118	2nd Aug.	Moji & Kobe.
"TALMA"	10,000	8th Aug.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.
"JAPAN"	6,052	22nd Aug.	do.
"KASHMIR"	8,963	5th Sept.	do.
"SOUDAN"	6,686	19th Sept.	do.
"KALYAN"	9,118	3rd Oct.	do.
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For MANILA, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, SUEZ, PORTSAID,

BARCELONA and other SPANISH PORTS.

S.S. "LEGAZPI" 30th Mar.
 S.S. "C. LOPEZ Y LOPEZ" 17th May.
 S.S. "C. LOPEZ Y LOPEZ" 22nd Apr.

The steamers of this Company are all classed 100 A1 at Lloyd's and are fitted with every modern convenience for the comfort and safety of the passengers.

Stewards and Doctor carried.

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BOTELHO BROS., Alameda Building, Hongkong.

PRINCE LINE FAR EAST SERVICE

Regular Sailings to Boston and/or New York by fast

freight steamers.

For BOSTON

and

NEW YORK

S.S. MOORISH PRINCE expected 31st March sailing 1st April

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CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATIONS.

Ports	Steamers	Date of Departure
MANILA	"TAMING"	On 19th Mar., 2 p.m.
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"CHIHLEI"	On 20th Mar., 4 p.m.
AMOI & SHANGHAI	"WUHU"	On 21st Mar., D.L.
SHANGHAI	"SZECHUEN"	On 21st Mar., D.L.
NEWHONGWANG	"CHANGCHOW"	On 22nd Mar., D.L.
SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	"SHANTUNG"	On 22nd Mar., D.L.
HOIHOW & SINGAPORE	"CHENAN"	On 22nd Mar., 10 a.m.
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"KUEICHOW"	On 22nd Mar., 2 p.m.
AMOI & SHANGHAI	"FOOCHOW"	On 23rd Mar., 9 a.m.
HOIHOW, PAKHOI & HAIPHONG	"LUCHOW"	On 25th Mar., D.L.
SWATOW & BANGKOK	"YUNNAN"	On 25th Mar., 10 a.m.
SWATOW & SINGAPORE	"KWANGCHOW"	On 25th Mar., 2 p.m.
MANILA	"KINGYUAN"	On 26th Mar., 3 p.m.
	"TEAN"	On 26th Mar., 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI LINE.—Excellent Saloon accommodation, with Electric Fans fitted. Regular service four times weekly between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, leaving Hongkong Sundays (via Swatow) and Saturdays (direct extending to Tuesday) (via Amoy) Thursdays (via Swatow) and Saturdays (direct extending to Tuesday). Cargo taken on through bills of lading to all Yangtze and North China ports. Passengers for Shanghai do not require to tranship at Woosung.

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HONGKONG TO PHILIPPINES AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATIONS

Steamer	Arr. Hongkong from Australia	Leave Hongkong for Manila, Sandakan, etc.
"CHANGSEA"	In Port.	21st March, 10 a.m.

This Steamer is fitted with Refrigerating Machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice Fresh Provision, etc., and has superior accommodation. Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the State Rooms. A duly qualified Doctor is carried. Reduced Fares, Cargo booked through to all Australian, New Zealand & Tasmanian Ports.

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FOR NEW YORK AND BOSTON via SUEZ.

S.S. "BOWES CASTLE" Sails on or about 20th March.

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REGULAR MONTHLY PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE (Fiume).

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO GENOA, ALL ITALIAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANT, BLACK SEA AND DANUBE PORTS.

REDUCED PASSAGE RATES TO BRINDISI, VENICE OR TRIESTE.

£66.

NEXT SAILINGS.

OUTWARD FOR YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND MOJI.

S.S. "NUMIDE" Sails about 1st April.
 S.S. "FIUME-L" Sails about 3rd April.
 S.S. "DUCHESSA D'AOSTA" Sails about 3rd May.
 S.S. "NIPPON" Sails about 3rd June.

HOMEWARD FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE.

S.S. "ROSANDRA" Sails about 19th March.
 S.S. "VENEZIA" Sails about 7th April.
 S.S. "NUMIDE" Sails about 2nd May.
 S.S. "FIUME-L" Sails about 8th May.
 S.S. "DUCHESSA D'AOSTA" Sails about 7th June.
 S.S. "NIPPON" Sails about 8th July.

* Cargo only.

NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR CALCUTTA COLOMBO TO SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

S.S. "UNONA" Sailing from Calcutta on or about 12th March.
 Regular Passenger and Cargo Service to South African Ports.
 Through Bills of Lading issued from Hongkong.

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O. S. K.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—via Singapore

Colombo, Suez and Port Said.

S.S. "PARIS MARU" Wednesday, 9th Apr.

S.S. "RIO DE JANEIRO" Saturday, 21st Mar.

S.S. "MEXICO MARU" Friday, 21st Mar.

S.S. "BOMBAY MARU" Monday, 24th Mar.

S.S. "BANGKOK MARU" Friday, 4th Apr.

S.S. "CALCUTTA MARU" Tuesday, 1st Apr.

S.S. "HAGUE MARU" Saturday, 12th Apr.

S.S. "VICTORIA MARU" Saturday, 12th Apr.

S.S. "BORNEO MARU" 12th

S.S. "ANNAM MARU" 15th

S.S. "ALABAMA MARU" Sunday, 13th Apr.

S.S. "BAVANA MARU" Beginning of May.

S.S. "JAPAN MARU" Sunday, 13th Apr.

S.S. "KEELUNG MARU" Sunday, 23rd Mar., 11 a.m.

S.S. "TAKAO MARU" Sunday, 24th Mar., 11 a.m.

S.S. "TAKAO MARU" Thursday, 27th Mar., 10 a.m.

For further particulars please apply to—

OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

K. SHIMA, Manager.

